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Treasury plan for single-figure inflation

By PINHAS LANDAU
Post Finance Reporter

The Treasury is working on a new and wide-ranging economic plan, designed to bring the rate of inflation down to an annual level of 5 per cent.

Work is currently under way to draw up a picture of the economic conditions likely to pertain in 1988, and this will serve as a background to the detailed proposals to be laid before the government later this year.

According to Treasury Director-General Emmanuel Sharon, who outlined these plans at a press briefing yesterday, the current inflation rate of 15-20 per cent is untenable. It will either rise or fall from this level, and economic policy must aim to reduce Israel's inflation rate to the 5 per cent level of our major trading partners, he said.

Unless this is done, the policy of keeping the exchange rate fixed would also break down. The exchange rate cannot remain fixed in the long

term in the face of huge gaps between the rates of inflation at home and abroad, because Israeli exporters would lose their competitive position in world markets, he explained.

The cost-of-living allowance and the system under which it was paid were, according to the Treasury boss, suited to the old days of high inflation, but needed to be remoulded to the new reality of relatively low inflation. This remark brought a sharp response from the Histadrut. Haim Haberfeld, the Labour federation's trade union department head, said the Treasury had no authority to change the current agreement.

Sharon dwelt at some length on the price-control regime. He noted that the Brazilian anti-inflation programme had broken down because it overly relied on the use of controls to repress price rises. However, in Israel the controls had never been a central feature of the plan. While they could help calm inflationary expectations they

could not, *per se*, reduce pressures on prices. Sharon said that the gradual relaxation of controls would continue, but that they would be maintained on goods produced by local monopolies or cartels. Regarding subsidies, the Treasury's aim in 1988 was to reduce the amount of subsidy in each subsidized good rather than the total number of goods being subsidized.

The director-general's conclusion was that the aim of 5 per cent annual inflation was attainable, given the right policy mix, and without damaging the balance of payments. To achieve sound economic growth, he said, would require several years of stability, and the expectation of several more.

He added that the size of Israel's defence complex was a serious constraint to the development of the economy. In this connection he noted that if the Lavi could be completely financed by the defence ministry's budget, it would be only a military problem, and not an economic one.

Problem of black visitors 'over'

By BENNY MORRIS

Post Diplomatic Correspondent
The U.S. sees the problem of the harassment of black and Arab Americans at Israel's border points as "over," according to Foreign Ministry sources in Jerusalem.

The sources were speaking after a meeting at the ministry yesterday morning between Israeli officials and two senior U.S. Embassy officials, Arthur Hughes and Wayne Leininger at which the Israelis explained the new steps to be instituted at the border points.

According to the Foreign Ministry sources, the American officials expressed "satisfaction" with Israel's efforts to solve the problem and said that "from America's point of view, the affair is over."

American sources said yesterday that the U.S. is confident that Israel "will translate its words into deeds" at the border entry points - Ben-Gurion International Airport and the Allenby Bridge over the Jordan River. The sources described the new Israeli steps as "positive," but added that Israel could have solved the problem "months ago."

In Washington, State Department spokeswoman Phyllis Oakley said "Israeli officials have informed us that they are instituting changes to deal with the concerns we expressed regarding treatment of some black and Arab Americans seeking entry into Israel. We are encouraged that the problem is being addressed, and we hope it can be resolved."

Doubts over fast start on Avnei Hefetz

By JOEL GREENBERG

Jerusalem Post Reporter
Defence officials were sceptical yesterday of promises by Housing Minister David Levy that his ministry would start work this week at the planned West Bank settlement of Avnei Hefetz, in coordination with the Defence Ministry.

A spokeswoman for the Judea and Samaria Regional Council said (Continued on page 9)



Mark O'Connor - off the case.

(Tiktiner/Media)

O'Connor quits; Sheftel now heads defence team

By ERNIE MEYER

Jerusalem Post Reporter
Attorney Mark O'Connor yesterday ceased being head of the defence team in the Demjanjuk war crimes trial after the court accepted his letter of resignation. The court had earlier heard the accused, John Demjanjuk, state clearly that he wanted to dismiss O'Connor.

Before asking Demjanjuk to announce his decision, the court president, Judge Dov Levin, stressed that the court would not postpone reopening the trial beyond next Monday, when Demjanjuk is scheduled to take the stand.

Demjanjuk will now be defended by Israeli attorney Yoram Sheftel and his American colleague John Gill.

Yesterday's court session began



after an unusually long delay of an hour-and-a-half, having been scheduled to start at 11:30 a.m. After calling the court to order, Judge Levin said that Sheftel was now accredited to the defence in his own right, and not as an appointee of O'Connor. Judge Levin also announced that he had rejected Sheftel's request for a postponement on the grounds that he was unpre-

(Continued on page 9)

Washington said planning \$1 billion arms sale to Saudis

By DAVID MAKOVSKY

Jerusalem Post Correspondent
WASHINGTON. - The Reagan administration plans to submit to Congress in September a \$1 billion arms package sale to Saudi Arabia, informed sources here say.

The package, which has yet to be finalized, includes 1,600 air-to-surface Maverick missiles, 10-24 F-16 jet fighters, 12-15 F-15s, 150 kits to upgrade M-60 tanks, and an array of artillery ammunition. Some of the aircraft would be replacements for damaged F-15s in the Saudi Air Force.

It is possible that some of the weapons will be sent to Bahrain and other small Arab states in the Persian Gulf.

Some of the small states, members of the Gulf Cooperation Council, have complained to the U.S. about Iranian attacks in the area. The administration has yet to decide how to deal with this.

A White House official would only say: "We are aware of the outstanding need of the Saudi defence forces. Their needs are under discussion. No final decisions have

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 3)

Egyptian FM meets with Peres, Shamir

Meguid stresses parley as 'only way' to peace

By BENNY MORRIS

Post Diplomatic Correspondent
Egyptian Foreign Minister Esamat Abdel Meguid, on the first day of his visit to Israel, yesterday declared that an international peace conference under UN auspices was the "only way" to achieve progress in the peace process.

Speaking at a reception in his honour given by Foreign Minister Peres only 30 minutes after meeting with Prime Minister Shamir, Meguid declared his country's commitment to the "international conference" formula as a means of initiating direct Israeli-Arab talks. He said there was "no viable alternative."

Earlier, on landing at Ben-Gurion Airport, Meguid said that "we must seize without delay the unique opportunity presently afforded us for achieving real progress on the peace process. The only way to reach that end is through the convening of an international conference."

According to informed sources, Egypt regards Shamir as the main obstacle to the peace process.

As far as Egypt is concerned, both the PLO and the Soviets have in recent weeks exhibited flexibility and have "moved" towards the Egyptian-Israeli-Jordanian-U.S.



Egyptian Foreign Minister Meguid with Prime Minister Shamir and Foreign Minister Peres before last night's reception at Jerusalem's King David Hotel.

(Dan Coleman)

consensus concerning the conference.

During a recent visit to Cairo, PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's senior aide, Hani al-Hassan, "did not object" to the Palestinians taking part in the conference within the

framework of a joint delegation with Jordan - a departure from the Palestine National Congress's convention recent resolution insisting on a separate, independent PLO delegation. Al-Hassan "also seemed to have

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 5)

Arafat announces visit to India

By YORAM KESSEL

Jerusalem Post Correspondent and agencies

NEW DELHI. - With the atmosphere here exacerbated by fears of possible terrorist action against Israel's Davis Cup tennis team, Palestine Liberation Organization chairman Yasser Arafat has announced plans to make a two-day visit next week.

Arafat's scheduled visit, his first here since Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi came to power in 1984, will overlap with the stay of Israel's tennis squad and supporters, who will be here until next Tuesday.

Arafat, who arrives July 27, will

hold "wide-ranging discussions" with Gandhi and other Indian leaders. The talks will include the situation in the Middle East, according to Khaled el-Sheikh, the PLO's ambassador here.

"Mutual relations will be discussed," he said, when asked if India's decision to play Israel in a second round Davis Cup tennis match this week will figure in the discussions.

Khaled denied reports that India had sought a postponement of Arafat's visit. India issued the invitation in May, before deciding to go ahead

with the match, he said.

The PLO and several Arab countries have protested India's decision to play Israel, which was a major reversal of New Delhi's policy of not having sporting links with Tel Aviv. India and Israel do not have diplomatic relations and New Delhi has accorded Arafat head-of-state status on his previous visits.

Though there have been no signs so far of any protests or hostile acts, the security precautions here make the tensions palpable. The searing heat, caused by the delayed arrival of the high summer monsoon, adds to the strain.

(Continued on page 9)



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The weather at major Swissair destinations

	21.7.87	MIN.	MAX.	
AMSTERDAM	13	10	16	Cloudy
BRUSSELS	16	10	22	Clear
BUEENOS AIRES	4	32	34	Clear
CHICAGO	14	10	18	Clear
COPENHAGEN	13	10	16	Clear
FRANKFURT	14	10	18	Clear
GENOVA	11	10	12	Cloudy
HONG KONG	28	25	31	Clear
JERUSALEM	14	10	18	Clear
JOHANNESBURG	6	43	48	Clear
LESSON	20	15	25	Clear
LONDON	14	10	18	Clear
MADRID	15	10	20	Clear
MONTREAL	14	10	18	Cloudy
NEW YORK	14	10	18	Clear
OSLO	14	10	18	Cloudy
PARIS	14	10	18	Cloudy
ROME	14	10	18	Cloudy
SAO PAULO	16	10	22	Clear
STOCKHOLM	17	10	24	Clear
TOKYO	22	20	24	Clear
VIENNA	15	10	20	Clear
ZURICH	16	10	22	Cloudy

*For the latest weather conditions contact Swissair.

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THE WEATHER

	Yesterday's	Yesterday's	Today's
	Humidity	Min-Max	Max
Jerusalem	36	22-30	29
Golan	38	17-32	31
Nahariya	-	-	-
Safed	-	-	30
Haila Port	-	-	-
Tiberias	29	21-37	36
Nazareth	39	20-31	30
Afula	49	22-32	31
Shomron	30	21-32	31
Tel Aviv	59	21-29	29
B-G Airport	47	18-31	30
Jericho	26	22-38	38
Gaza	70	22-38	38
Be'er Sheva	34	20-33	33
Eilat	10	25-42	40

DEPARTURES

MK Mattityahu Peled (Progressive List for Peace), last night for Yugoslavia at the invitation of the Belgrade Institute for Finance and International Relations.

BULLETIN

Mordechai Vanunu was brought to the Supreme Court yesterday with a hood over his head, for a special hearing. The alleged nuclear renegade managed to free himself of the hood and was recognized by onlookers.

Bill on pensions for IDF widows

Post Knesset Correspondent
Widows of IDF soldiers would be able to continue receiving their widows' pensions from the Defence Ministry if they remarried, under a private members bill by Yigal Cohen (Likud) which the Likud faction yesterday approved for immediate tabling.

At present, many widows opt not to remarry because it would mean losing their pensions.

Professor seeks court ruling on free speech

By JOEL GREENBERG
Jerusalem Post Reporter
An-Najah University professor Saeb Erakat, sentenced last week for incitement, says he will pursue an appeal to the High Court of Justice to seek a definition of the limits of free speech in the territories.

The Nablus military court Thursday imposed an eight-month suspended sentence on Erakat and fined him NIS 10,000 for an article in the An-Najah newsletter last year in which he called on Palestinians to "endure, reject and resist" Israeli occupation. Erakat's lawyers had argued in court that resistance could take non-violent forms, and said the charges violated their client's freedom of speech. Their appeal to the High Court was made after Erakat's conviction in April.

In a reply to the High Court, this month, the State Attorney's Office said free speech could be limited in areas under military rule. The case is still pending.



photos on every facing page. All religious and civic holidays — Israeli, American and Canadian — are indicated. All dates in English and Hebrew. Spiral-bound, each page 24 x 17 cm. (9 1/2" x 6 3/4").

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HOME AND FOREIGN NEWS

Police boost guard for Soviet mission

By JONATHAN KARP
For The Jerusalem Post

TEL AVIV — The police will this morning increase the number of guards at the Hilton Hotel here after four days of demonstrations which interfered with cars carrying Soviet consular officials.

Two people were arrested yesterday morning in what was the shortest, but largest and most intense demonstration so far. In a 10-minute period, about 20 protesters from the Israel 35's women's movement and World Union of Jewish Students (WUJS), some of whom were stripped prison outfits, jumped between two police escort vans, chained themselves together at the wrists around the two Finnish Embassy cars and shouted slogans demanding the release of Soviet Jews.

Amid the commotion, Vladimir Magarik, father of Prisoner of Zion Alexei Magarik, climbed atop the car carrying delegation head Yevgeny Antipov, and Vladimir Kruglyakov and walked on the roof while holding a poster of his son.

Last Wednesday, Magarik chained himself up inside the Hilton lobby.

Magarik and Ruth Katz, one of the leaders of the 35's, were arrested and detained for seven hours. They were released after agreeing in writing not to participate in any further demonstrations against the Soviet

delegation and after Katz's husband, a lawyer, guaranteed that the two would appear this morning in the Tel Aviv Magistrates Court.

They are to be charged with participating in an unauthorized demonstration and disturbing the peace. In addition, Magarik is to be charged with damaging property — the roof of the car — the police spokeswoman said.

Although back-up policemen yesterday arrived faster than on previous days and two arrests were made, questions remained why the police had not acted sooner on behalf of the Soviet officials, who carry diplomatic passports.

In addition to the officer posted at the hotel on a 24-hour watch, four policemen stood by yesterday without attempting to stop the raucous demonstration. They were apparently waiting for commands from a superior, who was summoned to the site.

Whether the police will be more responsive in the future remains to be seen. Tel Aviv District police commander Nitzav Gabi Amir yesterday reportedly called a meeting of senior officers to review police activity since the Soviets arrived.

As for the extra guards at the Hilton, they may be superfluous. The 35's had previously announced that yesterday's demonstrations would be the last outside the hotel.

Sharansky wary of Gorbachev

By GREER FAY CASHMAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Jews should not be lulled into a false sense of complacency by the "nice but limited gestures" of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, says Nathan Sharansky.

Speaking on Sunday at the Jerusalem Theatre at the conclusion of a Cantors' Assembly musical demonstration of solidarity with Soviet Jewry, Sharansky, who 17 months ago was released from Soviet detention, urged that the question of Soviet Jewry "be restored to the main agenda of every major conference in the world."

He cautioned that without protest and continued demand the movement for Soviet Jewish emigration, despite having brought a quarter of a million Jews to freedom, was on the brink of failure.

People who believe that if they stop demonstrating the Soviet authorities will adopt a more liberal policy on Jews' exit permits are merely deluding themselves, Sharansky said. At best, another 10,000-12,000 Jews will be allowed to leave but they will not be the first in a tidal wave: "they will be the last of our people to go."

Today, said Sharansky, there are already third-generation refuseniks in Russia.

A dozen other former refuseniks also attended Sunday night's tribute. Most of them had served prison sentences for their Zionist activities. Between them they had spent more than 30 years behind bars.

14% rise in cost of flour

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The price of flour increases by 14 per cent and the cost of special, unsubsidized breads rises by 12 per cent as of today, the Industry and Trade Ministry announced last night.

The price increases are a direct result of a new agreement reached between the government and wheat suppliers here and abroad.

RIGHTEOUS. — Six Righteous Gentiles are among the 20 persons to be named "Distinguished Citizens of Tel Aviv" at a ceremony tomorrow.



Ambassador Moshe Arad yesterday presented his credentials to President Ronald Reagan in a ceremony at the Oval Office. Along with Arad, new envoys from Yugoslavia, Nigeria, Honduras, Mali and Tonga also presented their letters of credence. Arad's wife, Rivka, and his two children were present at the ceremony.

Strike on the airwaves

By JEFF BLACK
For The Jerusalem Post

Radio and television reporters were to begin their 24-hour strike at 2.00 this morning. They are demanding the same wage agreement as that recently signed with journalists from several daily newspapers.

The Hebrew daily Ha'aretz, according to Yona Shimshi, secretary of the National Journalists' Association, will also not appear today for the fourth day running, although negotiations between Ha'aretz's management and the association took place last night.

The journalists at the Itim news agency which relays local news to the Israeli media, are still on strike.

Haifa plans festival

Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — City Hall will spend NIS 800,000 on the annual summer festival, which begins next Tuesday and lasts five weeks.

The festival includes concerts, pop music, street performances, open air art shows and workshops for artists, children and hobby amateurs.

The main events will be held in the Rehov Nordau pedestrian mall and neighbouring Theatre park, on the beach and in the Gan Ha'em Park and zoological garden.

ARMS

(Continued from Page One)

been made.

The administration did not outline the scope of the sale at a White House meeting last week between National Security Adviser Frank Carlucci, President Ronald Reagan's Chief of Staff, Howard Baker, and American Jewish leaders. The White House officials gave Jewish leaders a survey of the Persian Gulf situation, and put the sale of Mavericks and a "few replacement planes" in that context.

The administration last month withdrew a sale of Maverick missiles amid strong congressional opposition. Administration officials said privately that they hoped to consult more fully with Jewish groups before a future sale.

One result of last week's White House talks was a decision for closer communication between National Security Council staff and Jewish groups.

American Jewish leaders are expected to meet within the next ten days to discuss strategy in dealing with the proposed new sale.



Prime Minister Shamir greets Yuli Edelstein and other former Prisoners of Zion yesterday at his office in Jerusalem. Shamir welcomed them home and encouraged them to "assist the entire nation in the struggle for the immigration of all those still there." He added that Soviet Jewry emigres who moved to the U.S. instead of Israel "endanger the entire struggle for Soviet Jewry." (Issac Harari)

Technical details of moshav aid settled — actual sums still left open

By ANDY COURT

Knesset finance subcommittee members agreed yesterday on almost all of the logistic details of the Ravid Committee's plan to aid the country's debt-ridden moshavim, but the actual size and terms of the aid package are to be decided today.

Finance Chairman Avraham Shapira, who chairs the subcommittee, said he planned to finish the subcommittee's work today, and bring the agreement to a vote of the full Finance Committee either Thursday or early next week.

But the most difficult issues still need to be addressed — namely the size of the debt-rescheduling package, the interest rates and the amount of money that the banks and other creditors will have to write off.

Likud members of the subcommittee want to distinguish between the debts of the individual moshavim, and those of the purchasing organizations that provided them with both supplies and credit. Labour

members want to stick with the finance minister's proposal to the Finance Committee which makes no such distinction.

The subcommittee members, who represent both the coalition partners and the opposition parties, managed to agree on the structural aspects of the aid package, such as the composition of the administration that will be formed to oversee the aid plan, and the way in which mutual credit guarantees within a moshav will be limited in the future.

"The principle we adopted says that all activities from now on in the moshav sector will be on a voluntary basis," said MK Dedi Zucker (Citizens Rights Movement), a subcommittee member. "Those who want to work through the purchasing organizations will, and those who don't won't. And the purchasing organizations will not engage in any financial activities that resemble banking activities, which is how this

crisis developed.

Moshav leaders warned yesterday that if some decision is not reached before the Knesset's summer recess, they will consider not sending their produce to market as a form of protest.

"Not marketing our produce will hurt us but it's our only weapon," said Yohanan Daniel, secretary of the Moshav Movement.

Leaders of all the moshav movements are to hold an emergency meeting in Tel Aviv tomorrow to decide what action they may take if the matter is not resolved as quickly as Shapira plans.

Meanwhile hundreds of Negev-area moshav members yesterday signed a petition calling on the government to set up a commission of inquiry to investigate the collapse of moshav purchasing organizations.

The petition also demands the immediate dissolution of existing collective associations.

Egged subsidy should be \$2b. less than it seeks, says Transport Ministry

By ASHER WALLFISH
Post Knesset Correspondent

The Transport Ministry wants to give Egged \$2 billion less than the bus cooperative is demanding to renew its vehicle fleet.

The Knesset State Control Committee heard this yesterday from Baruch Levi, director-general of the Transport Ministry, who said the process of renewing the fleet would be staggered over a ten-year period.

State Comptroller Ya'akov Malz said that Egged had failed to keep a

commitment to separate the accounts of its scheduled lines from the accounts of its special trips. This made it hard to calculate the subsidy due to be granted to renew the vehicle fleet and led to lengthy bargaining and procrastination.

Malz said the best way to calculate the subsidy accurately would be to set up a public committee to lay down criteria.

He said that Egged owns 43 affiliated companies whose relations with the cooperative entail conflict of

interest.

Committee chairman David Liba'i said he had invited Egged representatives to state their case at the next meeting, and had asked the Treasury and the Transport Ministry to submit reports on Egged's books they had commissioned from independent auditors.

Yair Tsaban (Mapam) said that MKs would not have a clue about what goes on in the public transport system unless their cars were immobilized for a month with a Denver boot.

Fate of beret hangs in balance

Post Defence Reporter

The fate of the beret as a mandatory part of the IDF soldier's uniform has been postponed for several weeks following a General Staff forum yesterday in which several participants expressed strong opposition to the beret's demotion from the head to the epaulet.

The Manpower Division and the Military Police will draw up a list of standards of discipline for the IDF. The list will include a dress code as well as standards relating to maintenance, medical care and arms.



One of the reigning queens of rock, Tina Turner, performs at Tel Aviv's Yarkon Park tonight. (M. Daniel/Media)

Hillel shuns reception for Meguid

By ASHER WALLFISH
Post Knesset Correspondent

Knesset Speaker Shalom Hillel said yesterday he would not attend a reception given last night for Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Abdel Meguid by Foreign Minister Shimon Peres.

Hillel said he would not call on a person who had not extended that courtesy to him, or had not paid his respects to the Knesset according to custom.

Hillel earlier ordered the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee not to hold official meetings with Meguid, because the Egyptian minister wanted to meet the group elsewhere than in the Knesset building.

Hillel explained that foreign presidents, prime ministers and other VIPs have never requested or held meetings with Knesset committees outside the Knesset building, and have always preceded meetings with Knesset committees with a call on the Knesset Speaker.

The late Egyptian President Anwar Sadat visited the Knesset on his trip to Jerusalem, calling on the Speaker, and meeting with the Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee, as well as making his historic speech in the plenum.

MK Goula Cohen (Tehiya) raised the issue in the House Committee, which praised Hillel's adherence to precedent.

Committee chairman Abba Eban attacked Hillel last night for his action. He told The Jerusalem Post that no committee meeting with Meguid had been planned and therefore none had been cancelled. A few members of the committee had intended to hold an informal meeting with the Egyptian minister at the King David Hotel but this was dropped because Likud and Tehiya members declined to attend, he said. Eban said he regretted Hillel's role in the incident and his refusal to attend the reception.

"It has been a common practice for visiting foreign ministers of other countries and of Israeli foreign ministers when they go abroad to have informal encounters with parliamentarians, not always in the parliament," said Eban.

Hillel's boycott of the Peres reception was seized upon by members of the Likud and Tehiya as an opportunity to lambast Hillel, while lambasting Egypt and Peres.

The sole protester was Yossi Sarid (Citizens Rights Movement) who blamed Hillel for taking "provocative action" in the face of "a bearer of peaceful tidings."

Eban will meet Meguid privately tomorrow. Eban attended the reception last night along with at least two other committee members, Ehad Olmert and Dan Meridor, both of Likud.

Beit Jann Druse turn themselves over to police for questioning

By YOEL DAR
For The Jerusalem Post

ACRE. — Five more druse residents of Beit Jann turned themselves over to police yesterday for questioning on their role in Mt. Meron Nature Reserve riots.

During the riots, which took place some two weeks ago, 23 police and Border police and two Nature Reserve Authority rangers were injured and 12 vehicles were seriously damaged.

The Jerusalem Post has learned that in the past four days 17 Druse have been investigated by police but only four have been remanded in custody.

A spokeswoman for the Galilee Police District said police had evidence against many more local residents, including Druse who served in the security services and who are employees of the local council. But she declined to say when charges would be pressed against them.

Tension in Beit Jann has subsided but a meeting between senior police officers in the north and Druse dignitaries, planned for yesterday, was called off at the last minute without any explanation.

Bar-Ilan University

We record with sorrow the passing of

JACOB M. KAPLAN

one of New York City's distinguished philanthropists and a benefactor, especially of the University's law and literature programmes.

To his beloved wife and family, we extend sincerest condolences.

May all derive solace from inspiring memories of Jacob Kaplan.

With deep sorrow, I announce the passing of my dear mother

ALI BERGER

The funeral will leave at 11 a.m. today, Tuesday, July 21, 1987, from the Sanhedria Funeral Parlour.

Her Loving Son
Yair Heppner

UN Council meets to vote on halt to Gulf war

LONDON. — The UN Security Council yesterday pressed ahead with preparations for a vote on a resolution ordering Iran and Iraq to halt the Gulf war, despite a request from Iran for a last-minute delay.

The U.S., meanwhile, concluded arrangements for its first escort convoy since the Vietnam war with shipping sources saying it would start taking Kuwaiti tankers through the Gulf tomorrow.

U.S. captains have boarded two Kuwaiti tankers at anchor just outside the Gulf and plans to start a U.S. navy escort into the waterway tomorrow are on schedule, shipping sources in Dubai said yesterday.

Arrival of the captains clears the last technical obstacle to the tankers flying the U.S. flag. One shipping source said the Stars and Stripes may have been hoisted already on the vessels — the 401,382-ton supertanker Bridgeton and 46,723-ton gas carrier Gas Prince.

France, which broke off diplomatic relations with Iran on Friday, said it had advised its shipowners to steer clear of the Gulf because of the danger to shipping there.

Iran's Ambassador to Bonn, Mohammad Djavad Salari, told Reuters that Tehran had asked West Germany to try and delay the Security Council meeting until France handed over the Council presidency to Bonn next month.

"After the latest hostile acts by France against Iran, as far as we are concerned the resolution would only be one-sided and we could not accept that. As things stand we see no basis for a fair resolution," he said.

But UN aides said there was no mention of any delay when Council members met briefly behind closed doors to put the finishing touches to the ceasefire resolution and discuss procedures for a public session scheduled for 3 p.m. (10 p.m. in Israel).

The resolution, the first to order Iran and Iraq to halt their war, calls for the withdrawal of troops to recognized boundaries and an exchange of prisoners.

All five permanent members of the Council — the U.S., the Soviet Union, China, Britain and France — were expected to support the resolution, which also threatens "further steps" — meaning sanctions — if necessary to enforce the demand for an immediate ceasefire in the war, now in its seventh year.

Iran's president yesterday said a UN ceasefire is worthless, and threatened retaliation against vessels, regardless of flag, if Iranian ships are attacked.

The Iranian news agency reported President Ali Khamenei as saying that the resolution had been engineered by President Reagan.

Meanwhile, French officials in Paris said that although France's diplomatic relations with Iran have been broken and the two countries' embassies remain blockaded, normal talks are under way for the return home of diplomats from both sides.

But there were no signs of progress, and French and Iranian leaders said they would not yield on the key issues.

"We will not retreat even one step," President Khamenei was quoted yesterday as saying by the official Islamic Republic News Agency.

French Foreign Minister Jean-Bernard Raimond said Sunday night that a major issue of contention between the two sides — France's demand that embassy translator Wahid Gerdji turn himself in for questioning — is "not negotiable."

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Gloved workmen hang Vincent Van Gogh's 'Sunflowers,' the world's most expensive painting, before its unveiling in Tokyo yesterday. The Yasuda Fire and Marine Insurance Co. bought the painting at a London auction earlier this year for \$33 million — three times the previous record price paid for a painting. British authorities had delayed the painting's shipment, hoping to find a British buyer. 'Sunflowers' will hang in the Japanese insurance company's art museum. (Reuters)

FOREIGN BRIEFS

Fear of Aids ruins Swedes' holiday

ATHENS (Reuters). — A group of Swedish women spending their summer holidays on the island of Crete complained to police last week they could not find lovers this year due to the fear of Aids, police said.

The women told police they were willing to undergo Aids (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) tests and asked for a written document to prove to potential lovers they were healthy.

Police said they were unable to help the women.

Aids kills by stripping the body of its defence against disease. It can be transmitted in infected blood or by sexual contact.

Morocco ineligible for EC membership

BRUSSELS (Reuters). — An application by Morocco to join the European Community (EC) was yesterday turned down by the 12-nation trading partnership because the North African state was ineligible for membership, diplomats said.

King Hassan's application was made at an EC foreign ministers' meeting chiefly concerned with the bloc's trade disputes with Japan and the U.S., they said.

The EC's Founding Treaty of Rome restricts membership to European states, effectively excluding Morocco despite its close ties with the west as a moderate Arab nation.

U.S. denies terror charges against Greece

ATHENS. — The U.S. had no intention of accusing Greece of having contact with Palestinian terrorist groups, according to a letter made public by the Greek government yesterday.

U.S. Undersecretary of State for Political Affairs Michael Armacost said in the letter to Greek Foreign Minister Karolos Papoulias that the row had been due to a misunderstanding.

A row broke out last month when American Ambassador Robert Keelley presented a document to Papoulias which allegedly said there had been contacts between Greece and the Palestinian terror group led by Abu Nidal.

Kohl pays tribute to anti-Hitler plotters

BONN (AFP). — West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl yesterday paid homage to the "patriotic attitude" of the authors of an assassination attempt against Adolf Hitler 43 years ago.

In a statement published here, Kohl said the 43rd anniversary of the failed coup is a major national date for the Germans and "reminded us that during the darkest period of German history, human feelings did not die out."

Amman taxis banned from cruising

AMMAN (Reuters). — Amman's 5,000 yellow taxis were banned today from cruising streets in an experimental move designed to cut fuel consumption and reduce traffic congestion.

Traffic authorities official Mohammed Farhan al-Bayayda said taxis would now have to wait at specified locations in Amman, rather than roaming streets.

War II, explained that a few shorter oars would be needed in the narrower bows and stern, where the rowers would be jammed shoulder to shoulder.

His calculations were confirmed by fragments of archaeological evidence. Vase paintings depict the lower oarports in a trireme's hull as larger than the upper ones, and not in shadow. Morrison's explanation was that the lower oars had to move further than the others because their fulcrum was further inboard. And, since they were so near the waterline, they were covered with leather sleeves to keep the sea out — hence the absence of shadow in the paintings.

Again, a bas-relief excavated on the Acropolis in Athens shows the top thwarts of the vessel in greater relief than the lower ones. Morrison deduced that the highest tier of oarsmen sat on an outrigger that ran the length of the trireme.

Gradually, detail by detail, the Englishman assembled a theory of the lay-out and mechanics of the trireme. "Of course," says Coates, "we had the advantage of knowing the laws of mechanics and physics. The evidence plus the laws of nature provided a set of necessary and sufficient data to make the project possible."

Construction at the Tzikakos shipyard in Perama began in July 1985 and was completed last month. The new trireme weighs 22 tons, and cost \$800,000. The hull is of Oregon pine and the keel of African iroko, held together by 25,000 oak pegs. The crew will be trained by Boris Rankoff, four times stroke of the Oxford University boat race crew, now a classical historian in Perth, Western Australia.

Of course, Thucydides, the great publicist for the trireme, was himself a retired Athenian naval officer. Was his boosterism justified? Zeus willing, we shall soon find out.

(London Observer Service)

Poindexter: Arming of Contras not act of war

WASHINGTON (AP). — Former national security adviser John Poindexter testified yesterday that he knew Lt.-Col. Oliver North helped run a secret supply programme for the Contras, but said he didn't consider it an act of war.

Poindexter was testifying for the fifth day at the nationally televised Iran-Contra hearings.

He also said he periodically informed President Ronald Reagan of certain aspects of the resupply effort for the Nicaraguan guerrillas, and Reagan knew North was the main National Security Council aide on the project.

Poindexter said he knew that profits from secret arms sales to Iran were going to the Contras, but said he was unaware of the details. North had a "very broad charter" to act, he added.

The navy rear-admiral, who resigned November 25, the same day that North was fired, said repeatedly that he did not recall or was not familiar with some aspects of the Contra supply programme.

He also said he did not include details of the effort in his daily intelligence briefings with Reagan, who is insisting he did not know that

funds from the Iran arms sales were being sent to the Contras.

Poindexter is testifying under a limited grant of immunity that means his words cannot be used against him in any separate criminal proceeding unless it involves perjury. He and North are both targets of a criminal probe.

Poindexter also said yesterday he was aware that North had hired international security expert David Walker, who was taken on to help shoot at Nicaraguan government aircraft to create the impression of greater Contra strength.

When Representative Thomas Foley said such actions amounted to an act of war against a nation with whom the U.S. has diplomatic relations, Poindexter shook his head in disagreement and said it did not. The Sandinista government was "exporting revolution" in Central America, Poindexter said.

The hearings resumed for their 10th week as congressional sources disclosed that a former White House aide has said he saw two memos by North proposing the diversion of Iranian arms sales money to Contras.

Seoul government, dissidents jointly seek new constitution

SEOUL (AP). — The South Korean government and opposition parties yesterday began working together on a new constitution that allows direct election of the president.

The floor leaders of the two opposing groups — the ruling Democratic Justice Party (Andrep) and the major opposition Reunification Democratic Party — met for the first time since President Chun Doo Hwan's agreement on July 1 to sweeping democratic reforms for political change. The floor leaders decided to hold an expanded meeting of party leaders later this week.

The parties are working on a constitution that will enable 21 million South Korean voters to select their next president by a direct, popular vote in an election expected later this year.

The winner of the year-end election will succeed Chun, whose current seven-year term ends next February.

The two rival political groups differ on some issues such as the

length of the president's term.

A draft version of the constitution proposed by the governing party calls for a single six-year term; the opposition proposes terms of four years, with re-election permitted once.

The ruling party also opposes an opposition demand that the voting age be lowered from 20 to 18. Many of the 1.2 million people who would be allowed to vote under a lowered age limit are believed to favour the opposition.

Chun, reacting to weeks of nationwide anti-government protests, released 543 political prisoners and restored the civil rights of 2,000 others early this month.

The Seoul district criminal court yesterday sentenced 12 radical students to prison terms of up to seven years on charges of trying to overthrow the government. It also meted out suspended prison terms of up to 2½ years for three other students after taking into account their status as first-time offenders.

Tias in Moscow for cosmonaut's launch

MOSCOW (Reuters). — Syrian Defence Minister Mustafa Tias arrived in Moscow yesterday to watch the launch of his country's first cosmonaut into space, Syrian sources said.

Lt.-Col. Mohammed Faris, a 36-year-old air force pilot from Aleppo, will make Syrian history tomorrow when he joins a 10-day mission with Soviet cosmonauts Alexander Viktorenko and Alexander Alexandrov.

Their Soyuz TM-3 will blast off

from the launch centre in Kazakhistan, and orbit for two days before docking with the Soviet space station Mir where cosmonauts Yuri Romanenko and Alexander Laveikin are working long-term.

Tias, who is also deputy prime minister, was accompanied by a number of Syrian military officials.

The first Arab in space was Saudi Arabian Prince Sultan bin Salman bin Abdulaziz, who took part in a U.S. shuttle mission in 1985.

Chaos in India as MDs strike

NEW DELHI (AFP). — Thousands of patients were forced to leave hospitals in searing summer heat yesterday as government doctors struck in hospitals in major cities nationwide, halting emergency, dispensary and outpatient services.

Surgery was suspended in the five leading state-run hospitals in New Delhi, pregnant women were told to deliver on pavements and doctors refused to see even road crash victims, Health Ministry officials said.

Health Ministry receives letter of allegations reportedly signed by five physicians

Shaare Zedek orders 'impartial' probe of malpractice charges

By JUDY SIEGEL
Post Science and Health Reporter

Strife in the Obstetrics and Gynecology Department of Jerusalem's Shaare Zedek Hospital has come out into the open with the dismissal of the department head and the release to the press of a letter alleging "malpractice" and "danger to patients."

The Health Ministry, which on Friday received a letter allegedly signed by five young doctors in the department, says that it immediately set up a committee to investigate the problem "impartially." The committee was named by Dr. Moshe Mashiah, who is in charge of hospitalization services, and is comprised of advisers to the ministry's director-general on gynecology issues.

Mashiah, to whom the letter was addressed, has heard "a number of rumours" about professional problems and rivalries in the department in the past month, according to the ministry spokesman. But the ministry wants to "make sure that if inter-departmental rivalries exist, they do not affect the findings of the committee," the spokesman declared.

A copy of the letter, whose contents were publicized in an afternoon paper yesterday, was also received yesterday by *The Jerusalem Post*. It is dated June 21 and the alleged signatories demand the immediate appointment of a "judicial investigatory committee" to look into the "many cases of medical malpractice, improper and un-

professional treatment that have sometimes caused damage to health, handicaps and, in certain cases, even a danger to life."

The signatories claimed that only a small percentage of the cases has been brought to the Health Ministry's attention.

When *The Post* asked the doctors whose names appear on the letter if they actually signed it and sent it to the ministry, one of them, Dr. Shlomo Shimonovich, confirmed that he and the four others (Dr. Zion Tal, Rabbi Dr. Mordechai Halperin, Dr. Daniel Malach and Dr. G. Alkavish) "all sat down and wrote it together." He had not seen the others sign it, but knew who had agreed to do so. Dr. Malach told *The Post* he "didn't recall" writing or signing the letter. Another signature was illegible, but on the back of the copy it was stated that "Rabbi Dr. Halperin of the Schlesinger Institute has signed it," which Dr. Halperin strongly denied. The other signatories were unavailable. Neither of the three doctors contacted could say how the letter had reached the press.

Dr. Shlomo Balas, the head of the department for three years, was fired a week ago, but he is still working there. He claims that "the dismissal was illegal, not following the proper procedures, and it was ruled out by the Israel Medical Association." He maintained that the Shaare Zedek management had dismissed him, because "for over two years, I have been fighting to have things cor-

rected in this department, but to no avail." He said he had written letters to the hospital heads, but was told "everything will be corrected in a month or two." Asked if he would recommend to pregnant women that they give birth in Shaare Zedek, Dr. Balas said: "No comment." He denied having instigated sending the letter to the ministry.

Dr. Warren Jacobsohn, newly appointed director-general (for a year) after the resignation of Dr. Michael Rosenbluth, who left to head Kupat Holim Clalit in Jerusalem, told *The Post* that Balas was fired on grounds of "incompatibility" with the rest of the department, and that there might be a connection between his dismissal and the release of the letter to the press.

Dr. Jacobsohn admitted that "there have been internal problems in the department," but added that the accusations in the letter—which he said he had not seen—were highly exaggerated. "All incidents involving patients have reached the press in recent years and there has been nothing new." If the ministry investigates, a Shaare Zedek probe would be superfluous, he said. But the hospital would cooperate fully with the ministry. A new department head is to be appointed by tender.

The Health Ministry is so far unable to separate allegations from facts. But it states that women shouldn't fear having babies at Shaare Zedek, where there are 300 births a month.

(An address to The Washington Institute for Near East Policy on July 2.)

IN THE MIDDLE EAST, we always ask ourselves two questions. How dangerous are the risks of new wars and terrorism, and what are the prospects of ending ongoing wars and advancing the cause of peace? At present, the main danger of escalating hostilities comes from two areas: the Persian Gulf, in relation to the Iran-Iraq war; and the total and permanent chaos in Lebanon, which might tempt outsiders to intervene.

Before dealing directly with the present situation, however, I would like to describe, from the Israeli standpoint, the major developments of the last decade.

Four events here contributed to the current situation. The first was the decision by Egypt and Israel to make peace. The second was the collapse of the Shah's regime in Iran which brought Khomeini and Khomeneism to power—a significant event strategically and not to Israel's or the free world's advantage. The third event was the decision of Iraq, tempted by the collapse of the Shah's regime, to invade Iran, and the fourth, the war in Lebanon and its aftermath.

Egypt's and Israel's decision to establish peaceful relations was seen as a *pax Americana* by the Soviet Union and the Arab world—an effort by the two countries, with the participation of the United States to deliver a setback to the Russians' position in the Middle East.

The radical Arab countries—Syria, Iraq, Libya, Southern Yemen—reacted sharply and immediately, trying at the Baghdad Conference to pressure the so-called moderate Arab countries into forming a front against the peace and those who support it. Actions were taken to isolate Egypt, to ban and boycott it.

All the Arab countries, with the exception of Sudan, severed diplomatic relations with Egypt. All cut financial aid, and ousted Egypt from all the inter-Arab and inter-Islamic organizations and even moved the headquarters of those organizations from Egypt to Tunisia. This effort was conducted with the backing of the Soviet Union.

The outbreak of the Iran-Iraq war, however, contributed greatly to Egypt's ability to maintain peace with Israel. Iraq's invasion also greatly reduced the military threat to Israel. Why? First, because Iraq grew to depend on the Arab oil-producing countries to finance its war machine. Second, because Iraq became totally dependent on Jordan as its only link to the outside world. Today, Iraq maintains its lines of communication and supply only via Jordan. On any given day one can see 25 to 35 ships in Akaba, with 85 per cent of them carrying goods to Iraq.

THE SOVIET UNION described the Iraqi invasion as a war of aggression, and stopped supplying arms to Iraq. Iraq subsequently got weapons from China and Egypt, which sold Iraq the arms made surplus by the modernization of the Egyptian army with new American equipment.

During 1983-84, the pendulum within the Arab world swung from isolation of Egypt to an isolation of Syria—the only Arab brother. Further, when in the aftermath of the war in Lebanon the Syrians ousted Arafat's PLO from Tripoli in September 1983, the PLO was forced to turn away from Syria and the radical Arab countries, to Egypt and Jordan.

These events together allowed Egypt to break the belt of isolation that the Arab radicals had tried to put on it—to rebuild bridges to the Arab world and end the isolation the peace treaty with Israel had brought.

Soviet policy in the Middle East at this point was in complete disarray. Because of the Iran-Iraq war, the Arab world practically joined together in support of Iraq. Jordan, Egypt and Arab-Iranian peninsula countries, most of the North African countries except Libya—all had the same position on the most crucial issue in the Middle East. The Soviets were the losers until about a year ago. Since then, however, I see a sophisticated and imaginative Russian strategy.

THE FIRST and most important goal of the Soviet Union is to end the Iran-Iraq war. They realize that this war contributed to the stabilization of the peace between Egypt and Israel (which changed the balance of

RABIN:

Time is limited for a peace initiative

power in the Arab-Israeli conflict); isolated Syria and Libya, within the Arab world; and pushed Arafat closer to Jordan and Egypt. Moreover, the split between Syria and Arafat also put the Soviet Union's Middle East partners—Syria, Iraq, Libya, the PLO—in disarray.

Forgive me for saying it, but I believe that the only outside power with the capability to end the war is the Soviet Union. This is for the simple reason that they can talk to both sides. The war cannot be ended by the threat of force, or use of force, without a diplomatic process. Even while tens of thousands of Iranians get killed by Russian-made arms used by the Iraqis, only the Soviets are received with red-carpet treatment in Teheran. We have reason to believe that during the visit about two weeks ago by Soviet First Deputy Foreign Minister Vorontsov, an attempt was proposed to end the war during a conference to take place in Moscow with delegations from Iran, Iraq and the Soviet Union.

Iraq realizes that it cannot win the war. Its goal, coordinated with the Soviet Union, is to stop the war and return to the status quo. The Iraqis refuse. They demand the head of the Iraqi president, Saddam Hussein.

Iraq has about 6,000 tanks; Iran, a little over 1,000. Iraq has about 600 fighter planes; Iran, a little over 100. In conventional arms, you cannot compare the two sides. Under the present circumstances, it is a no-win war on the ground. So the Iraqis started using their air supremacy to attack civilian targets.

That attempt failed, partly because the Chinese strengthened Iran's capacity to resist (which I think they will do increasingly). Saudi Arabia tried, by reducing oil prices a year and a half ago, to bring the Iranian economy to a point where Iran could not continue the war. That attempt failed as well. All the world enjoyed reduced oil prices for a while, but after a few months that the policy had failed, prices began to increase again.

Finally, I believe, Iran came to the conclusion that the only way to end the war was to globalize the conflict: attacking tankers, forcing the Iraqis to respond, creating problems for both superpowers. This is the situation we find ourselves in today.

What will happen? Who knows? Israel is just a bystander, and is watching to what the two superpowers will do. But allow me to repeat one thing. Ending the war requires more than the threat of force or the use of force; it requires diplomacy.

The second major problem area is Lebanon. The key issue there today is the struggle between two "friends"—Iran and Syria—for hegemony in the Shi'ite community. What will decide the fate of Lebanon is the battle between the Hizbullah and Amal for control of the Arab world's largest and most deprived Shi'ite community—the only Shi'ite community in the Middle East to which Khomeneism has been successfully exported.

THE SITUATION in the Middle East is always fraught with contradictions. For the Soviets, ending the war between Iraq and Iran is their first strategic goal. Yet Syria, the Soviets' main strategic ally, sides with Iran. But Syria supports Amal in Beirut, against a Hizbullah-Palestinian coalition, supported in turn by Iran. Iran would like Lebanon to become an Islamic republic, while Syria and Amal want to maintain Lebanon's unique multi-religious nature. As for the Christ-

ians, I do not believe they will play a major role in shaping the future political situation in Lebanon.

What does all this mean to Israel? Eight years have passed since the peace treaty between Israel and Egypt was signed. We have proved in that time that peace between an Arab country and Israel can be viable. True, many of our expectations regarding normalization of relations in economic, cultural, and human terms have not been fulfilled. Yet looking at it as a minister of defence, I can say that it has changed completely the strategic equation of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Then came the war between Iran and Iraq. As I have said many times, thank God there is at least one war in the Middle East no one blames Israel for. Like many on the Arabian peninsula, we in Israel are interested in one thing: that this war should have no winner. The two countries are bitter enemies, and as long as a no-win situation exists without a globalization of the conflict, it is up to them to decide when they end it.

Militarily, if Egypt is out of the cycle of war and Iraq mired in its problems, that leaves Syria alone as a potential—and I stress potential—threat to Israel. By itself, Syria is not a military march for Israel. In the last six or eight months, we have seen cracks in the Syrian ability to strengthen its military capability, a slowdown especially in its land forces.

THE SOVIETS have been active in the region. They played a major role in bringing about unity at the PLO-Palestine National Council meeting in Algeria, succeeding in detaching Arafat from Egypt and Jordan. It is my estimate that Arafat will be in Moscow within the next two months. The Soviets are also very active in helping the Iraqis and the Syrians improve relations. Three or four months ago, the Soviet foreign minister, Shevardnadze, hosted a meeting in Moscow between the foreign ministers of Syria and Iraq—the first such face-to-face contact between these two countries. King Hussein has also been active in bringing the two parties together.

The Soviets are trying to mend the rift between Arafat and Syria and return to the situation that existed before the Egypt-Israel peace and the Iran-Iraq war disrupted the setup in the region. They do not hesitate to use economic assistance. We believe that during Assad's last visit with Gorbachev in Moscow, they wrote off about \$4 million of Syrian debt to the Soviet Union. They also rescheduled over \$10 billion of debt from Soviet arms sales, which will be paid over 40 years, starting in 1991. They also offered much more generous proposals to Egypt than "some others" have.

In terms of freedom of political maneuver, as long as the Iran-Iraq war continues, Jordan can do much more than when it ends. Once the war is over, Iraq will be less dependent. Therefore, putting aside the Persian Gulf and the chaotic situation in Lebanon, I believe that any initiative which brings Egypt, Jordan and Israel together before the situation changes is the only hope to do something to strengthen the peace between Egypt and Israel and expand the peace process beyond those countries.

The Soviets have not yet achieved their main goals. They have not ended the war between Iraq and Iran. They have not improved relations between Iraq and Syria. They have not improved relations between the PLO and Syria. All this was in existence before the war between Iraq and Iran started. Therefore, I believe we have only a limited time for initiatives in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Because I think Iran will not succumb to pressures to end the war as long as it can continue as it is doing, and as long as the ayatollah is in power, I see the situation in the Gulf the most tense one. Lebanon and the others are manageable. The real problem is a clear-cut policy on the part of the Soviet Union and the determination to use the means available to achieve it. The Soviets combine the capability to approach the two sides and, at the same time, the freedom to use arms shipments to back their policy.

It is a unique period in the Middle East, and for Israel one of the more relaxed in terms of threats from the outside. This allows us the opportunity to consolidate the peace between Egypt and Israel and move ahead, at least with Jordan—whenever and wherever Jordan decides to do so.

Expert on road safety: 'Nothing will happen until a minister is injured'

Telling absences during Knesset debate

By DVORAH GETZLER
Post Knesset Reporter

For one man sitting in the Knesset press gallery yesterday during the debate on road safety, the 23 empty places at the government table were more eloquent than the speeches being made from the rostrum.

"Nothing will happen until one of the ministers is injured in a road accident," said Moshe Becker of the Technion. "This is all so much empty froth." Becker is adviser to the Knesset's sub-committee on road safety.

set's sub-committee on road safety.

"There is no point in this long debate unless the government makes available the money that Transport Minister Haim Corfu told the cabinet on Sunday he needs," Becker continued. "If ministers drove their own cars, rather than leaving the work to their drivers, they might be more aware of the dimensions of the problem."

Corfu sat patiently throughout the

poorly attended debate. But he was not much enlightened by the proposals he heard—ranging from a day of prayer and fasting, (Agudat Yisrael's Avraham Shapiro's suggestion); to money for roads, rather than for settlements, from Elazar Granot; and more stress on education in law observance, from the Likud's Uzi Landau.

The minister, replying to the debate, repeated the proposals he had made to the cabinet on Sunday. The

House voted to refer the matter for further discussion in committee.

Earlier, the road safety committee heard its chairman, Uriel Lynn, report that between 1972 and 1985 there was a steady decline in investment on roads, from \$120 million annually to \$35m. Of the NIS 335 billion the government had received in revenues from car owners in 1985/6, it had only invested NIS 100m. in maintenance and development of the road system.

THE PAZ SWEEPSTAKES



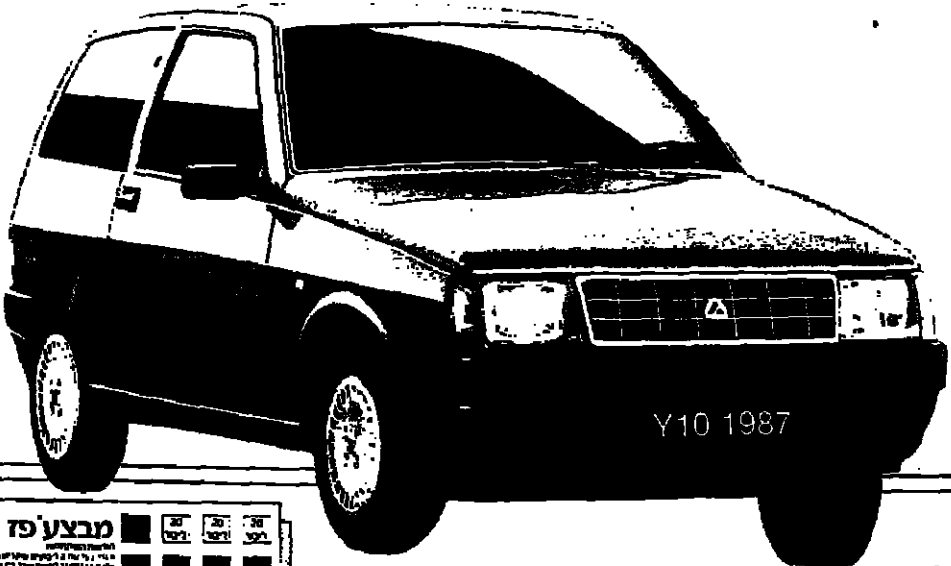
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Paz is now opening petrol station no. 200 in a real festive atmosphere. Stop off at one of the 200 Paz and Oz stations in the country, fill up with 20 liters of petrol, or 50 liters of solar and receive a "scratch-off play card". You've got a great chance of winning a prize in the Paz sweepstakes. Instant winners - 10,000 free fuel vouchers, 10,000 free oil vouchers, 40,000 "Paz Plus" tubes, 3,000 bottles of "Paz Plus".

Come Now! The big draw is near. Win an Autobianchi! Airline tickets to London and car radiotapes. The contest ends July 25th, 1987. Paz the largest Petrol station chain in Israel is now inaugurating its 200th petrol station in Gilo Jerusalem. All Paz stations are celebrating.

Employees of Paz, Paz petrol stations, Shohar printing works, Gitam image promotion systems and their families, are prohibited from participating in the contest. Regulations are available at Paz headquarters, Paz petrol stations and the Gitam image promotion systems.



A pleasure to pull up - at the yellow



Histadrut wage talks resume

By JEFF BLACK
For The Jerusalem Post

The negotiations between the Treasury and the Histadrut over public sector wages resume this morning in Jerusalem under the threat of industrial action if the Treasury fails to meet the Histadrut's demands.

The Histadrut's team will be led by Haim Haberfeld, the trade union department head, while the Treasury's chief wage negotiator, Hillel Duda'i, will present the Treasury's case.

Haberfeld has warned that today's negotiations, which will focus on the Histadrut's wage demands, as opposed to the five-day working week, will be difficult.

Yesterday, he discounted Treasury proposals to change the current cost-of-living increment agreement.

The trade union department head said the agreement is not between the Histadrut and the government but between the Histadrut and the coordinating committee of economic organizations. He described the present agreement, due to expire in April, as a good one "for us, the

employers and the country." He said the Histadrut would only discuss changes in the agreement when the time came to negotiate a new one.

The Histadrut, he said, wanted a return to the 1984/5 value of real wages while the Treasury was talking of maintaining their 1986/7 value.

Haberfeld also doubted whether Finance Minister Moshe Nissim would be able to negotiate a two-year wage agreement with the unions because of the guarantees of economic stability the Histadrut would demand in return.

He pointed out that next year is an election year, traditionally a time to inject money into the economy until the time comes to tighten the screws harder once the votes have been counted.

The trade unions' campaign headquarters is scheduled to meet this afternoon to discuss this morning's round of talks. If nothing is achieved in the meeting with the Treasury, said Haberfeld, the unions will consider taking industrial action, possibly even tomorrow.

He stressed that throughout the past few days, the campaign head-

quarters, consisting of trade union secretaries-general, has been planning for such an eventuality.

At a meeting yesterday, union leaders rejected the suggestion of Moshe Bet-Dagan, the secretary-general of the administrative workers union to organize a mass walk-out this Friday.

But Bet-Dagan warned that if today's talks followed the pattern of previous rounds of negotiations, the chances were that the more moderate union leaders could accept his proposal.

Meir Gatt, the campaign headquarters head, also warned that time was running out for the negotiations. He said the union leaders have to be able to show their workers that they have obtained significant benefits.

He too doubted that Nissim could offer the unions enough guarantees of stability in exchange for a two-year wage agreement.

He said he wanted the unions' message to be clearly understood by the Treasury: "If the Histadrut's demands are not met, the struggle will continue."

AT ITS recent General Assembly in Biloxi, Mississippi, the Presbyterian Church overwhelmingly adopted a statement on Christian-Jewish relations, culminating in a six-year effort by the 3.1 million member church to develop a comprehensive position on this vital issue. The document has attracted a great deal of attention, and it will be significant if its seven major affirmations become an integral part of Presbyterian church life.

The Affirmations "seek to lay the foundation for a new and better relationship under God between Christians and Jews." They are:

1. A reaffirmation that the God who addresses both Christians and Jews is the same — the living and true God.
2. A new understanding by the church that its own identity is intimately related to the continuing identity of the Jewish people.
3. A willingness to ponder with Jews the mystery of God's election of both Jews and Christians to be a light to the nations.
4. An acknowledgement by Christians that Jews are in covenant relationship with God, and a reconsideration of the implications of this reality for evangelism.
5. A determination by Christians to put an end to the "teaching of contempt" for the Jews.
6. A willingness to acknowledge the continuing significance of the promise of the land (of Israel) to the people of Israel.
7. A readiness to act on the hope which Christians share with Jews in God's promise of a peaceable kingdom.

Each Affirmation is followed by several paragraphs of "explanation" and interpretation.

The document forthrightly acknowledges "the church's long and deep complicity in the proliferation of anti-Jewish attitudes and actions through its 'teaching of contempt' for the Jews... Christians have not replaced Jews... Christians and Jews

Presbyterian document: will it make a difference?

A. James Rudin

have an irrevocable election" by God, and the statement cautions Presbyterians "when speaking with Jews about matters of faith to acknowledge that Jews are already in a covenantal relationship with God."

The document also clearly affirms the "continuity of God's promise of the land (of Israel) to the people of Israel."

The sharpest criticism at Biloxi came from representatives of the Arab Christian community in the Middle East, especially those living in Egypt and Lebanon, but there was also criticism from the increasingly vocal conservative evangelical group within the Presbyterian Church.

The Arabs were deeply upset by what they considered to be the document's theological justification and support for the State of Israel. The evangelical wing was angry because the document appeared to be "giving away the store" by asserting that Jews are not replaced in history and theology by Christians and that Jews already have their own unique and valid covenantal relationship with God. The entire justification for Christian evangelism to the Jewish people is undermined.

As a result, the Presbyterian General Assembly modified the final text. But the Presbyterians refused to scrap the document or to amend it so radically as to destroy its integrity and strength.

It is important to remember that the Presbyterian Church has had extensive missionary efforts in the Arab Middle East for over 150 years. These efforts include schools, hospitals, orphanages, and universities (the American University in Beirut was founded by the Presbyterians). As a result, official church statements and resolutions have usually had a pronounced anti-Israel tilt, and many of the Presbyterian Middle East missionaries have been outspoken adversaries of the Jewish state. And the increased evangelistic surge felt in all branches of Christianity has impacted upon the generally liberal religious thinking of the Presbyterians.

The statement, which will be thoroughly studied during the next two years throughout the Presbyterian Church, strongly rejects the classic Christian theme of "supersessionism," that is, "because the Jews did not accept Jesus, they are cursed by God, and the 'new Israel,' i.e. the Christian Church, has replaced the 'old Israel.'" The document labels such Christian thinking "harmful,"

and it calls for a "reappraisal."

The document, as one would expect from a church with deep Arab ties, speaks about the rights of the Palestinians, but the central "affirmation" is of God's "continuing promise" of the land of Israel to the Jewish people. And the Presbyterian document, while affirming the State of Israel, rejects giving its existence a theological justification as many evangelical Christians often do. Many other Christian leaders and bodies in their official statements often omit any mention of the Jewish state or speak of it in oblique and ambiguous terms.

But will this carefully and painfully wrought document really make a difference in daily relationships between Christians and Jews? Perhaps. To reverse 1900 years of Christian enmity towards Jews and Judaism, thoughtful and well-meaning Christians need guidance and instruction from their churches. Anti-Semitic patterns, the "teaching of contempt" towards Jews and Judaism, are deeply embedded in Christianity.

There are ways to "reality test" the impact of the statement. If the strong affirmations of the document are incorporated into Presbyterian schools from kindergarten through adult education, and into Presbyterian seminary curricula and college religion courses; if the hymnals and the sermons of the church reflect an appreciation and understanding of Jews and Judaism; if all teaching materials purposed for the church are evaluated in light of the recently adopted document; if the church's programmes and policies reflect these new views; if the church begins dialogues and conversations with Israeli Jews as well as with Arabs—if all these things begin to happen, then the intensive effort of the past six years will have been well invested.

Rabbi Rudin is the American Jewish Committee's National Interreligious Affairs Director.

Breakthrough at Budapest



The first Jewish studies centre in a Soviet bloc country was signed into existence in Budapest on July 1. Initiated and funded by the Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture, the new centre was established as an independent institute within the Department of Semitics at the University of Budapest. Prof. Isadore Twersky, director of Harvard University's Centre of Jewish Studies, is helping to develop a model for operating the research centre in Budapest. The research centre will operate under the auspices of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. Its task is to assemble and organize archival material dealing with Hungarian Jewry. It will also document Jewish historical, literary, religious, folkloric, and social life in Hungary. The centre will publish monographs, studies, bibliographies, and other documents related to Jewish subjects. It will represent Hungarian Jewish research in international scholarly organizations. Shown signing official documents are Kalman Kulcsar, vice president of the Hungarian Academy (left) and Dr. Ferenc Poloskel, dean of Eotvos Lorand University in Budapest.

Anti-Semitism lives in Hungary

BUDAPEST (AP). — A member of the ruling Politburo said in an article published Saturday that anti-Semitism "lives on" in Hungary today even though there are few Jews left in the country and there are no grounds for discrimination.

Gyorgy Aczel, Politburo member and chief Communist Party ideologist in the 1960s and 1970s was said to have addressed "the Jewish Question" in a lecture on ethnic issues and related problems at the party's political academy.

The address was printed Saturday by the party daily *Nepszabadsag* in what constituted a rare public discussion of ethnic tension and anti-Semitism by a senior official.

Aczel reportedly said he was lecturing "in a difficult period with the

country's economy beset by problems... with some legitimate anxieties prevailing."

Such tension, he warned, might rekindle unwarranted, but traditional, anti-Semitic feelings.

"Anti-Semitism as a prejudice lives on even though the greater part of Jewry has been rooted out and a part of those remaining (alive) has also left the native country."

He added that Hungarian Jews "suffered immeasurably" under the Nazis, who sent an estimated 600,000 of Hungary's Jews to their deaths in concentration camps.

There are no official figures on Hungary's Jewish community today, but it is thought to number about 80,000.

"Present-day anti-Semitism has

nothing to do with the size and social position of Hungarian Jewry," Aczel said. "We emphatically underline that it is not permissible to judge people according to their religion."

Hungarian Jews are officially represented by a state-sanctioned body known by its Hungarian acronym of MIOK. Functioning synagogues and Hebrew schools and a kosher restaurant in Budapest are among the institutions permitted to preserve Jewish religion and culture.

During the World Jewish Congress executive meeting in Budapest in May, a group of dissidents and young Jews known as Shalom charged there was growing anti-Semitism in Hungary and accused MIOK of not acting forcefully enough to stem it.

OFTEN WHEN people become experts in their fields they go on to write a book. Some are not big books. In fact, the one in front of me has only 63 pages but I think that suffices in getting its message across: you can put on a do-it-yourself film festival if you like, specifically a Jewish film festival.

Film as a medium for communication and drawing people together is as popular as ever. "We think film is a great organizing tool," says Deborah Kaufman, one of the editors of the book. "In fact, it has surprised us how it has brought people out... it has surprised some of them too."

Kaufman along with her cousin, co-editor Janis Plotkin created the book in question, *A Guide to Film Festivals in the Jewish Film Festival*.

Kaufman is also the director of the Jewish Film Festival which has been a success in the U.S. since it began back in 1981. Since then the producers have collected what they consider to be the 100 contemporary films ever made in the Jewish genre: films like Tillie Olson's "Tell Me a Riddle," or "The Rise & Fall of the Borscht Belt," or Israeli films like "Beyond the Walls" or "Hamsin."

The films they have chosen have premiered before tens of thousands of Americans in 20 cities across the U.S. Kaufman says that "we are getting so many calls from all over the country on how to do what we were doing that we decided to put it down in writing."

The reason they undertook the



Photo still from "The Free Voice of Labour: The Jewish Anarchists," one of the films featured in the newly-published guide.

DIY film festival

Stuart Wasserman

book project is the same one that motivated them to organize the first festival six years ago: "to put Jewish themes of life out in the open and start a discussion and debate on important Jewish issues."

"The book," says Kaufman,

allows other people to do that without us."

One of the hardest questions for Kaufman to answer is what is a Jewish film. She reads from the guide: "We have discovered that Jewish film has little to do with the ethnicity or background of the film artist, and everything to do with the film content. The range of style and content of the films reflect an exciting diversity."

Canada's conscience

Reuven P. Bulka

da. During the course of the commission's deliberations, relations between the Jewish and Ukrainian communities deteriorated, largely over the extradition of war criminals.

After the report was released in March, the situation started to be rectified almost immediately. National television presented a conciliatory joint appearance of Arwin Cotler, who represented the Canadian Jewish community on the Commission, and a member of the Ukrainian community. Both men spoke very favourably about the report, and of their eagerness to resume a friendly dialogue.

No one really knows exactly how many suspected war criminals there are in Canada. There are 20 persons, at the very least, against whom there is some evidence. The commission

recommends that immediate action be taken to pursue these cases.

SOME CRITICS have pointed out in the time it will take to amend the criminal code, and then put the Royal Canadian Mounted Police to work on the cases, the suspects will be able to leave Canada and escape possible prosecution.

The major criticism levelled at the report is its failure to mention a study by Ottawa researcher Alti Rodal on the history of war criminals in Canada. The government has been accused of trying to hide an inglorious past, even though it is a different government that has brought forth the Deschenes report.

Since the publication of the report, the Canadian Supreme Court has dealt with an appeal relating to the case of Ernst Zundel, who had been convicted in an Ontario court for having sent out literature claiming that the Holocaust was a hoax. The conviction was overturned by an

appellate court which ruled, *inter alia*, that the lower court judge had instructed the jury improperly.

The judge had told the jury that Zundel should be deemed guilty even if he sincerely believed that the literature he was sending out was true. The appellate court ruled that Zundel could be convicted only if he knew that the material he was disseminating was a lie. The Supreme Court, in refusing to hear the case, effectively upheld the appellate ruling.

It was then left for the Ontario attorney-general, Ian Scott, to decide whether to drop the case or re-try Zundel. The Jewish community was ambivalent on the matter, with such notables as Elie Weisel claiming that a new trial would only give hate-monger Zundel a free forum.

However, the attorney-general, quickly and before any debate could really be generated, decided to re-prosecute, on the ground that it was in the public interest to do so.

Dr. Bulka is rabbi of Congregation Machzikei Hadas, in Ottawa.

Filling a Zionist gap

Calev Ben-David

created as the more established Zionist organizations have reacted to criticism that their own primary focus has shifted too greatly to fund-raising and political support for Israel.

Yavneh Olami was established at the last World Zionist Congress in 1983 and was given a mandate to "provide a politically unaffiliated, religious, Zionist, cultural and social framework for students all over the world."

"Our primary goal," Barnett says, "is to attract the large mass of young religious Jews who grew up without an affiliation to a movement like Bnei Akiva, and didn't have the opportunity to hook onto any of their aliyah groups."

In order to attract this target group, Yavneh Olami arranges

Zionist programmes in yeshivot and universities here throughout the year. Programme coordinator Zora Chazanoff says: "Lectures on the mitzvah of aliyah or on Halacha on the settlement of Israel inject a Zionist element where there isn't much stress on this, particularly in some of the yeshivot."

One of the students these programmes deal with is Daniel Hirsch, a young American studying at Beit Midrash L'Torah in Jerusalem. "Many Diaspora Jews come to study in Israel, but they don't learn about Israel, even in the heder yeshivot. That is a big problem."

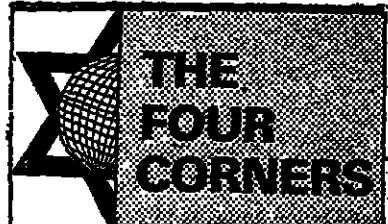
When students like Daniel return to their Diaspora homes, they form local chapters of Yavneh Olami, arrange similar Zionist-oriented programmes, and eventually form their own aliyah groups. Using this grass-roots method, the organization has founded chapters in the U.S., England, France, Belgium, and Argentina.

Why is a religious student association like Yavneh Olami required when larger Jewish student organizations already exist? "Our focus is specifically on aliyah," answers Barnett, "though a group like WUJS knows it can call on us for support for the rallies it organizes for Ethiopian or Soviet Jewry."

He estimates the active Yavneh membership as being "in the low thousands," and he stresses his organization's lack of political affiliation. ("We'll take no official stand on an issue like Judea and Samaria, and we have members from both Netivot Shalom and Gush Emunim.") But the organization's lack of a specific political connection may be why the group's only overseas shaliach was cut from last year's WZO budget.

"We'll be at the next World Zionist Congress," says Barnett. "To remind them that students have to be more of a priority in the Zionist movement."

The Jewish World Page, which appears on alternate Tuesdays, is edited by Aryeh Rubinstein.



Frankfurt to restore old mikveh: A 500-year-old mikveh (Jewish ritual bath) unearthed in urban renewal diggings in Frankfurt's Boenepplatz, will be restored as a historic monument, even though it will delay construction of a public service centre on the site for about a year.

The municipality had planned to dismantle the bath and move it to the local Jewish museum. But the Jewish community and its chairman, Ignaz Bubis, intervened with the mayor and city council. (JTA)

Alabama Jewry not amused: Although Alabama governor-Guy Hunt said he jokes about with his Jewish friends, leaders of Alabama's Jewish community said they found little humour in his remark at a local peach festival last week that "I never tried to Jew" a peach farmer over the price of his fruit.

Immediately following the remark, a reporter asked Hunt if some Jews might be offended. Hunt replied, "I joke about that with my Jewish friends all the time."

"He stuck his foot in his mouth and then he kept chewing on it," said Rabbi David Nesson of Congregation Agudath Israel in Montgomery. Nesson was also referring to Hunt's apology — which many found as offensive as his original remark.

In it, Hunt said, "I have studied history and have great respect and regard for the business success of the Jewish people." He added that, "I

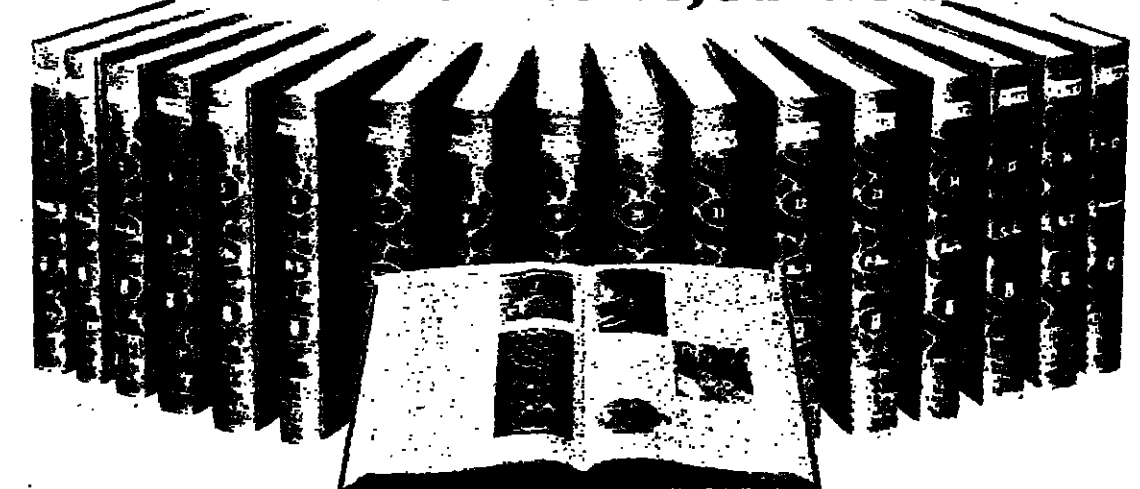
was raised and taught and believe the people of Israel to be God's chosen and special people."

Ellen Loeb, spokesman for the Jewish Federation of Montgomery, said the incident "has been blown out of proportion." But Rabbi David Baylinson of Congregation Beth Or in Montgomery said, "He obviously has an ingrained stereotype about Jews... it shows how 'backwoods' he really is." (JTA)

AJC offers to help Libyan Jews: The American Jewish Committee has announced it has offered to serve as a centre for the processing of claims by Libyan Jews whose property was seized by governmental decree or destroyed by Libyan mobs during and following the Arab-Israeli war of June 1967. Its address is 165 East 56 St., New York, 10022.

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TODAY

ALCOHOLICS Anonymous and singles-in-search-of-mates are only two examples of self-help groups that the Joint Distribution Committee is trying to foster with its recently-established Information Centre for Self-Help Groups in Tel Aviv.

The centre's function, according to director Martha Rimon, is to acquaint the various groups with each other's work, to make professional people aware of them for client-referral, and to provide office space and technical assistance to fledgling self-help groups. ICSH will also act as a clearing-house, disseminating information of activities to the general public.

At a recent ICSH-sponsored study day, Prof. Phyllis Silverman of the Psychiatry Department of Massachusetts General Hospital and the Harvard University Medical School, said that she prefers the term "mutual help" to "self-help," since members of these groups help each other as well as themselves.

When people go to a professional for help, Silverman explained, they are always considered "clients" and the emphasis is on what is wrong with them. The person who joins a self-help group, on the other hand, gets the message that his/her feelings and experiences are legitimate - that everyone else there has the same problem, and that he/she can, if desired, even become a helper and leader within the group as coping skills improve.

"The result is a kind of self-confidence people can't get anywhere else," Silverman said.
All of us use the self-help or mutual help model in our everyday lives, she explained. For instance, young mothers will ask more experienced mothers how they solved problems, and working women will give each other tips on how to integrate home management with careers.

A SINGLE dose of magnesium, a mineral that is needed for the body's chemical reactions, can mean the difference between life and death for heart attack patients recently admitted to hospital, say Jerusalem researchers.

While studying the effect of magnesium on patients, doctors in Shaare Zedek Hospital found that it was effective in preventing so many cases of arrhythmia (seriously irregular heart beats) that they stopped giving useless placebos to a control group of patients and administered magnesium to all.

Prof. Abraham S. Abraham and his team recently studied the connection between arrhythmias and the levels of potassium and magnesium in blood cells. Arrhythmia is a major cause of death among heart attack victims, and can sometimes be treated successfully with electric shock.

Half of the patients admitted with a severe heart attack to the intensive coronary care unit at the hospital were given a single intravenous dose of magnesium, while the others received a placebo injection of glucose. In addition patients received all necessary standard therapy.

After 94 patients were studied, the research was stopped on ethical grounds, since the magnesium had been of such a help that Abraham thought all patients should get it. Of 46 patients given the placebo, 34.8 per cent had life-threatening arrhythmias, while of those treated with the mineral, only 14 per cent had irregular beats.

Since then, all patients admitted to the unit at Shaare Zedek are routinely given magnesium, and a significant fall in mortality has been noted. The findings have been published in the *American Journal of Medicine*.

PARENTS bringing their babies to some Tipat Halav (well-baby clinics) have been warned not to give them chocolate milk on the grounds that "the cocoa binds with all the calcium and thus none of the calcium is absorbed into the body." We checked this with Prof. Yehiel Karl Guggenheim, professor-emeritus of nutrition at the Hebrew University-Hadassah School of Medicine in Jerusalem, and found this is not true.

THE MAKERS of Algemarina, a dry shampoo manufactured in Germany, claim their product to be as effective as normal shampoo for removing grease and leaving a pleasant aroma, while it also saves time. Available locally in 200-ml. cans sufficient for 20-30 applications, the shampoo's recommended price is NIS 16.

BRIGHTLY-DECORATED nylon bits for small children including a "catch-all" pouch are now available in Superpharm and Supersol stores. Manufactured in the U.S., a packet of 20 "Toss-a-Bibs" costs NIS 6.60.

CHOCOTRADE, importers of Rikola cough drops, have started to import Rikola herbal tea. The 200-gram tins are available in chemists, health food shops and delicatessens.

DIKLA NAIL treatment kits, imported from Switzerland by Blauman, consist of three products: a cream (NIS 5.83) which strengthens nails and prevents them from splitting; a nail hardener (NIS 7.36) which protects and strengthens and can be used as a base coat or as a colorless varnish; and a spray (NIS 7.97) which, when applied to the last coat of varnish, speeds up drying.

CRACKER Thins and Corn Soup Mix are new Osem products on the market. The soup is instant, made by adding boiling water to the powdered soup mix. Each carton contains four sachets and costs NIS 2.06. Osem is promoting Cracker Thins as a perfect snack to hand around at

Mutually helpful

The Joint Distribution Committee is supporting new efforts to form self-help groups, Lea Levavi reports.



Women about Women - self-help dramatized. (Ort Doron)

The self-help group takes this philosophy and expands it into something more organized. The exact nature of that organization, the psychiatrist contends, should be dependent on the people in the group, with professionals acting as their consultants and advisors.

"When I went to a social agency more than 20 years ago with the idea of sending a long-time widow to help a newly-bereaved widow, the social worker wondered how I could send a non-professional into a bereaved home. I replied that apparently we have to stop making condolence calls

until we obtain an appropriate degree. She was very angry, but I think professionals have learned a lot since then," Silverman says.

When discussion was thrown open to the audience, a social worker who had assisted in the formation of a self-help group noted how hard it was for her to let go and leave the group on its own: "It's like having to let your children grow up," she said.

Someone in the audience suggested that perhaps there should be a self-help group for professionals to help them learn to "let go" of groups which no longer need them.

ICSH operates an open-house from 4-6 on alternate Wednesdays at its offices at Beit Harofe, 1 Heftman Street, Tel Aviv. Tel. 03-217306.

PEOPLE whose eyesight is failing are invited to join a self-help group for the visually impaired which meets once a month in Tel Aviv.

Chairman Rachel Nevat explained that the group consists of 100 members but said she is sure there are many other people who have vision problems and who could benefit if they knew the group existed. How are these problems manifested?

"First, they give up reading books with small print. Then, they can't read the headlines in the paper. They have to stop driving and no longer go to the movies. Sometimes, they even try to keep it a secret from their spouse, as if he or she doesn't know."

"When the visually impaired finally do meet others who have the problem," Nevat said, "they discover that it doesn't have to be the end of the world. There is equipment available to help make life easier, and coping skills [to develop] to make things which seem impossible possible again."

As an example, she cited the case of one participant who complained at a meeting that the light in the stairwell where he lived didn't stay on long enough. Someone else said they had experienced the same problem and solved it by requesting the house committee to keep the lights on for five minutes instead of three.

In another case, a woman was able to go back to doing housekeeping chores after Nevat visited her home and showed her how to make labels to distinguish different items, and how to do other chores she could no longer do with her old methods.

Anyone interested in more information may contact Nevat at 053-29758.

Matters of life and death



Judy Siegel-Itzkovich

The 81-year-old, yet vigorous professor is a calcium expert. He says that only a small percentage of calcium binds with cocoa in milk, thus one does not have to worry that the milk is "useless" to the babies in providing calcium. He notes, however, that because of the sugar content of chocolate milk, regular milk is better for babies, but if they refuse to drink it, or eat *leben* or white cheese, chocolate milk is a possible substitute.

SPEAKING of calcium, women in their 30s are in need of it as much as growing children, in order to help prevent osteoporosis, the brittling of the bones. Ads for Tums, an antacid taken for heartburn, have begun to appear in the Israeli press, promoting them as a way to prevent osteoporosis in middle and old age.

Taking Tums in America has become a fad among American women.

Rahel Guttman of the Health Ministry's pharmacology department confirms that Tums have been approved as a non-prescriptive calcium supplement as well as an antacid. However, there are many calcium supplement pills on the market. And the ministry notes that it is better to drink milk or eat natural milk products than to swallow cal-

cium pills on a regular basis.

ELDERLY and chronically ill residents of the Tel Aviv area now have a centralized branch of Yad Sarah from which to borrow free medical equipment. The new branch, which coordinates the activities of 14 smaller Yad Sarah branches and offers new services as well, is located at 100 Sderot Yerushalayim, in the old, Zahalon hospital. The facility offers a laundry service for the incontinent, visits to homes of the elderly, repairs on wheelchairs, and emergency beepers for those living alone. It opened officially, in a ceremony attended by Labour and Social Affairs Minister Moshe Katzav and Yad Sarah president, Prof. Kaiman Mann.

MUHAMMAD ALI, former world heavyweight boxing champion originally known as Cassius Clay, suffered so many punches that he developed Parkinson's disease - which usually affects the ageing. Desperate for treatment for the fatal but slowly-developing disease, Ali (in his 40s) is due to undergo an operation in Mexico City, in which fetal human brain cells will be implanted into his brain. Dr. Ignacio Medrazzo says he has performed the experimental technique on 18 Mexican patients, and that improvements had been noted in "all" of them.

Meanwhile, a 41-year-old scientist of the Haifa Technion is suing the Technion for compensation, claiming that she "developed Parkinson's disease from biochemical and radioactive materials used" in her work.

The biochemist, who started working at the Technion in 1975, started to suffer from tremors and stiff neck muscles. Her doctors ordered her to stop working after they found she had been dealing with certain chemicals that, they said,

caused the disease. The scientist maintains that the Technion, which has not yet presented its defence, did not ensure the proper safety measures to protect her from the poisonous substances.

THE QUEUE at Kupat Holim Clalit's Negev facilities for ear operations among children has been so long, that some parents pride themselves on an operation while some children felt better and didn't need surgery. Yehuda Naveh, head of the Negev district at the Health Fund, promised that a special project will shorten the waiting time for such operations. The best time for surgery on children is during the summer vacation from school, he noted, so that the youngsters can return to their studies with improved hearing. The wait has sometimes been as long as 18 months.

Naveh called 70 parents and found that 20 of the children no longer need the operation. All the rest will get their operations before the summer is out, he said. Kupat Holim promises to shorten the queues for those waiting for treatments in other departments as well.

CAN you get Aids from mosquitoes? The question has brought shudders to happily married, non-hemophilic heterosexuals who don't take drugs and thus have little chance of getting the disease. A study at Biometrics Research Institute laboratory in Rockville, Maryland, found that mosquitoes fed with Aids-infected blood had the virus present in their stomachs two days later.

A report in *The Atlanta Constitution* caused a panic, but the study doesn't mean that Aids can be transmitted by "flying syringes." In Africa, where Aids is rampant, malaria - spread by mosquitoes - is also widespread and it affects all age groups, including children. But the incidence on Aids among children is quite low in Africa, thus most researchers rule out the insects as Aids carriers. Some doctors, however, advise that it is better not to slap a mosquito that has landed on your body. If his blood is carrying Aids, it might enter your own skin. But the chances of this happening is like finding a needle in a haystack.

On the market

cocktail parties. A 150-gram packet costs NIS 1.25.

CREME ROYALE, a new face cream prepared from all-natural ingredients by Oris in Belgium, has recently appeared on our shelves. Pleasantly scented and light in texture, Creme Royale is made from Royal Jelly, ginseng, allantoin and vitamin extracts and has a Ministry of Health permit.

The invention of a French agricultural engineer and bee-keeper, it is intended for normal or dry skin and doubles as a night or day cream. Israeli distributors Dietet-Kol claim that wrinkles will melt away after two weeks' use. Available in natural food stores and pharmacies, it will sell for NIS 25 for a 50-gram pot.

THE FIRST locally-made liquid laundry detergent has made its appearance on the local market.

Manufactured by Haifa-based Tasbin Chemical Industries, "Top" contains the active ingredients used in powder detergents and can be used on all fabrics. It dissolves immediately, works in cold water and, according to Tasbin, requires less consumption of electricity on the part of the washing machine than do laundry powders.

Top is also useful for hand-wash and is sold in one-litre bottles, good for 30 machine loads of four kilos each, and in a larger, economy size.

A NEW type of dressing for wounds.

especially burns, claims to provide a temporary skin which will fall off once the affected area is completely healed.

Omiderm, manufactured by Omikron, can be applied to the wound without having to use any sort of sticky bandage. Available in two sizes, the dressings measure 10 x 8cms. and cost NIS 9.30.

PARADONTAX toothpaste contains only natural ingredients and its manufacturers claim that it can prevent inflamed and bleeding gums and bad breath.

Made by Dr. Madaus-GmbH & Co., Paradontax's five natural ingredients are camomile, echinacea, rhatania, myrrh and sage. A sixth ingredient, sodium bicarbonate, cleans teeth without damaging the roots, and gets rid of plaque. Available at chemists and in health food shops the 100 gr. tube costs NIS 5.85.

LOTUS have bought out an especially absorbent sanitary towel, Lotus Maxi, for use at night and for those women who have just had babies or have heavy periods. The towels come in packs of 10 and include 10 disposal bags.

A NEW WASHING powder containing fabric softener claims to make clothes softer than other powders. Bonus, produced by the Shemen company, can be used in any machine, at any temperature and on

all fabrics. Available in 3-kilo boxes. Bonus costs NIS 15.30 and is sold in supermarkets.

DYNAMIC is a new multi-purpose cleaning fluid from Necca who claim that, instead of just getting rid of dirt, the solution destroys the link between the dirt and the surface being cleaned; thereby preventing the surface from being damaged.

With a balanced pH which the company says won't harm hands, Dynamic can be used in the bathroom and kitchen in diluted or concentrated form. It is kosher for Pesach and available in one or two-litre bottles at recommended prices of NIS 3.50 and NIS 5.40.

FOR BRIDES and grooms who prefer to select their wedding presents themselves, Tollman's offers a registry service just like that offered by large department stores abroad.

Couples need only note those housewares - pots, pans, decorative items, glassware and dishes - they desire on Tollman's wedding list form and spread the word to their guests. Gifts can be purchased either by individuals or by groups who wish to contribute for a costly item, and are delivered the day of the wedding. Located at Kikar Hamedina 72 (03-453134), Tollman's continually updates its stock of household items. Among the new arrivals is brilliant-coloured Italian-designed Taitu dinnerware which can be mixed and matched on the table.

Today is edited by Ary Levinson.

LONDON. — Richard Branson, the fastest man across the Atlantic in a hot-air balloon, is Britain's most relaxed multi-millionaire. He started in the music business at the age of 20 selling cut-price records and bootleg albums. At 36, he is chairman and majority shareholder of a leisure-industry corporation worth \$260 million, operating in 19 countries.

He belongs to a category of free-wheeling, new-generation entrepreneurs more familiar in the United States and Australia than in Britain, where his laid-back style and curiously hesitant manner have often misled his business competitors into underestimating his competitive drive.

The British understand the sobriety of the financial establishment. They understand the brassiness of the entertainment world. But they feel uneasy with a hard-edged corporation chief who dresses and talks like a college drop-out of the Sixties.

He is a lean, likeable diffident man with shoulder-length hair, a straggling blond beard and a penchant for rumpled corduroys. He conducts his worldwide corporate enterprises from a creaking ill-kept houseboat on a canal in London's Little Venice neighbourhood, furnished in pine and chintz, with an old nursery rocking-horse, an antique iron stove and the kind of sentimental bygoneess you pick up on junk stalls. His personal fortune is around £160 million.

As an un-bushy 16-year-old at Stowe, a fashionable British boarding school which also produced the actor and writer, David Niven, he founded a national magazine called *Student* which survived on the wave of late-1960s college rebellion. "It was really my education," he has said. "Before I interviewed people, I was forced to read their books."

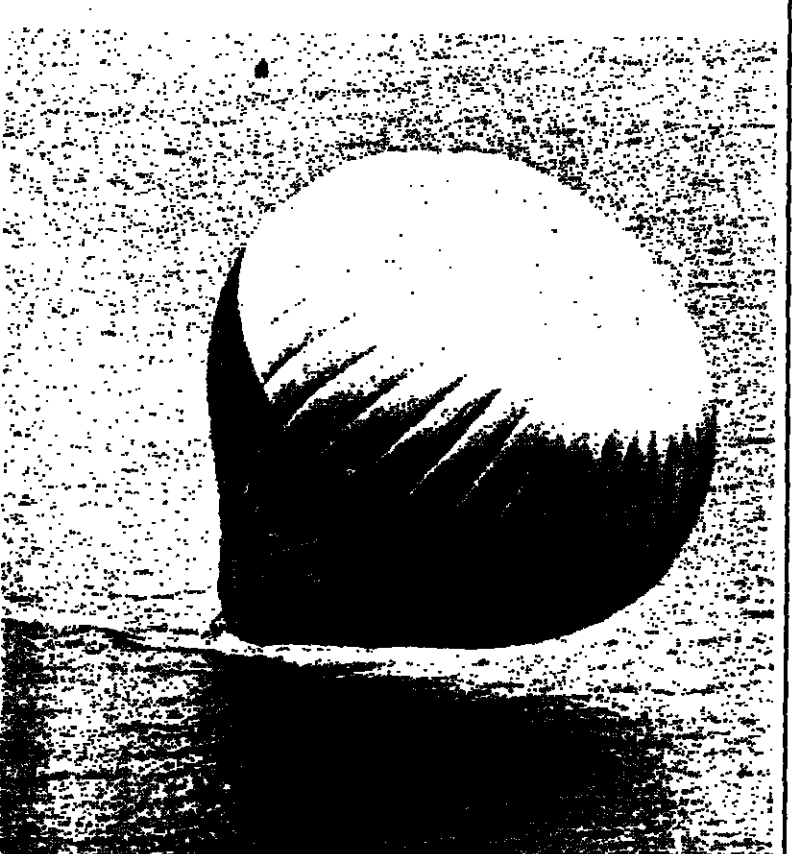
The last issue carried an advertisement for Virgin Records, which he started as a small mail-order firm. He was swamped by replies, closed the paper and developed Virgin, first as a back-street bucket shop operation, then as a recording company specializing in esoteric early 1970s rock.

He hit gold almost at once with Mike Oldfield, an extra from the show *Hair*, whose first album "Tubular Bells" sold five million, went to No. 1 in Britain, was picked up for the sound-track of the Hollywood film *The Exorcist*, and then went to No. 1 in the U.S.

Branson used the money to diversify into other businesses: music publishing, an artists' agency, a clothes store, a restaurant, a design studio — without much success. The enterprise remained a struggling one throughout most of the 1970s, indistinguishable from dozens of other manifestations of counter-culture capitalism that blossomed and with-

Richard Branson, head of \$260m. empire

The young millionaire in the old houseboat



Branson's Virgin Atlantic Balloon as it ditched in the sea off Rathlin Island, Northern Ireland, this month. (AFP)

ered during that period.

He hit gold again in 1976 when the advent of Punk brought a new wave of young, immature and (most importantly) unsigned bands into public view. Branson, who was outside the cautious mainstream record companies, signed the Sex Pistols. Their success financed a second period of Virgin expansion.

By the end of the decade, he had begun hiring professional business managers to sort out the happy-go-lucky youthful confusion, and Virgin was gradually transformed into a more of less orthodox company. The weirdo culture of advanced rock music slowly generated capital for what is now a flourishing entertainment conglomerate employing more than 2,200 people, owning nightclubs, video-and-book-publishers, TV and film production and distribution companies, an airline and a \$3,600-a-day holiday paradise in the Virgin Islands. Hippy capitalism has arrived with a vengeance.

"In the U.S., Richard would be maybe one of a thousand similar self-started, self-motivated figures."

says a London stockbroker who has done business with him. "What makes him unusual in Britain is his relative youth, a family and professional background unconnected with the financial establishment [Branson's father is a magistrate], and the fact that he has learned to use money as a commodity. He isn't afraid of it. That's Richard Branson's secret."

His taste for dangerous sport is an expression primarily of a sense of adventure: motor racing; abseiling down the side of Centrepoint, one of London's tallest skyscrapers; Transatlantic power-boat racing; and now intercontinental ballooning. Often, he does it as a charity fund-raising stunt.

But it is also motivated by a shrewd feel for public relations. He wants to build Virgin into a billion-dollar plus corporation. And Virgin is Branson — his taste, his flair, his competitive drive. His balloon escape earlier this month with worldwide TV, radio and newspaper coverage was worth several million dollars to him in free publicity.

(London Observer Service)

FTA meeting to highlight Israeli goods

Jerusalem Post Reporter

A delegation consisting of prominent Israeli industrialists, exporters and importers will visit Washington in October to take part in the "Free Trade Area '87" conference to mark the second anniversary of the binational free trade area agreement. The event is being organized by the Israel-America Chamber of Commerce and the Israel Export Institute.

Yehoshua Maor, president of the chamber, has said the "target group" of Free Trade Area '87 are American companies with annual sales of over \$50m., and other companies with which Israel would like to establish connections.

David Admon, chairman of the conference's organizing committee said that the Israel-America Chamber of Commerce regards the meeting of private sector representatives of the two countries as "an important forum in which to bring to the attention of Americans the opportunities that can emerge from business deals with Israel, encourage private initiative and broaden commercial ties between the two countries."

The timing of the meeting has been coordinated with the date of the free trade area discussions between the official representatives of the two governments.

Clarence Brown, Under Secretary of Commerce has accepted an invitation to attend the meeting.

The Israel Embassy in Washington and representatives of the Israel Ministry of Industry and Trade in the U.S. are also trying to get major U.S. companies to participate in Free Trade Area 87.



Yehoshua Maor (Ian Brunner)

BANKING ON IT/ Pinhas Landau

New directions overseas

Israelis going abroad have become used, in recent years, to utilizing the services of Israeli banking outlets in various countries. But it seems likely that this year will see the high-water mark of the foreign empires of the big banks, in terms of the number of total outlets they operate. The general shrinkage programmes operating in all the banks are coming to focus on the overseas departments as well, whereas until now the cuts made in foreign operations have been marginal and mainly symbolic.

The biggest empire, by far, is that of Bank Leumi. Leumi's new management is on the record as being engaged in a thorough rethinking of its overseas network, but it has not yet announced any details. The only concrete move made so far is the merging of the North American regional management into the Bank Leumi Trust Company of New York subsidiary, which is aimed at eliminating duplicated functions and extra office space.

Bank Hapoalim, by contrast, has a much less extensive operation in both the US and Europe. This, and the fact that Hapoalim's top management has had more time to decide what to do, probably explain why Hapoalim has become the first of the majors to set out its foreign strategy.

This is comprised of two parts — the areas in which it wants to contract, and those in which it is looking to expand. The ultimate aim is the same in both cases, namely to boost profits. But this is to be achieved both by cutting costs and by increasing revenues.

Thus, Hapoalim has put together a fairly comprehensive plan for paring down the number, size and cost of its branches abroad, as follows:

- Closing the branch in Queens, New York, and transferring its business to the main branch in the Rockefeller Center. Technically, the branch will continue to exist, although it will not be active, so as to keep the licence for the branch in the bank's hands.
- Several other branches in the U.S., notably that in Philadelphia, but others as well, will be switched from "shop-front" positions to "upstairs." This means that instead of occupying expensive sites at street-level, designed to attract passers-by and facilitate access for personal customers, the branches will move to premises on the higher floors of high-rise office blocks. This will bring savings in rents and other expenses, notably security — especially important for Israeli banks — and even cleaning costs. But it has other implications as well.

Being sited off street level is effectively an announcement that the bank in question is not interested in retail business of small personal clients. It wants neither the cheap money and broad deposit base nor the higher service costs that this kind of operation entails. Instead, it is after high-net-wealth individuals and/or corporate clients. For these people, the siting of the bank's premises is not very relevant, since they visit infrequently, and the bank's officers are as likely to go to them as they are to it.

- The two London branches are being merged, with the City branch being incorporated into the West End branch. This is, at first glance, the opposite process to that outlined for the U.S. branches, in that the City branch is currently off street level while the West End is a "shop-front" site. However, the bank's premises in Brook Street, in the heart of the West End, are owned by it, and the upper floors are rented out, mainly to Hevrat Ovdim enterprises. By integrating the City operation

into the existing premises in the West End, Hapoalim will make large savings in rents as well as in personnel and ancillary expenses.

The City branch currently concentrates on dealing operations in foreign currencies and in the London money markets, and the brokers who staff these departments might have been expected to oppose a move away from their natural habitat, including the watering-holes and eateries that the various brokering fraternities frequent. However, according to Avi Olshanski, the senior executive in the bank's foreign department — and to his surprise, the brokers made no objection to working in the West End and away from the prestigious City area.

All told, Hapoalim expects these moves to save at least a million dollars and probably close to two million a year, mainly in the wage and rents items.

In tandem with these cost-cutting measures, Hapoalim is looking to build up those areas of its business which are actual or potential winners. On the one hand, the branches in the U.S. and the UK are going to concentrate their activity on the corporate sector, with particular emphasis on business in the medium-large sizes. One area of activity which Hapoalim has its eyes on in the U.S., is participation in consortium-loans, in which banks take on a chunk of lending within a large loan at the invitation of the lead-bank or manager.

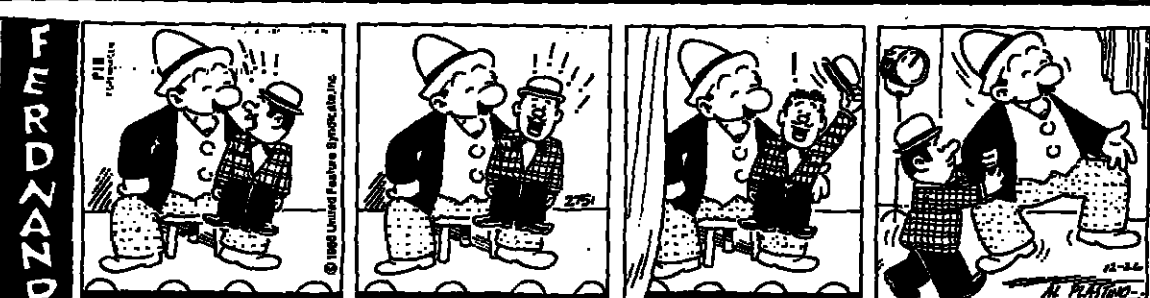
If you know what you're doing, these loans offer good profits for low operating costs, and they represent an effective way of broadening the branch's client base and becoming better known in the financial scene in its locality or country. However, in order to know what you're doing, you have to have qualified personnel, and Hapoalim admits that it will be recruiting a cadre of top-quality loan officers from the local banking communities, at the same time as it is engaged in cutting staff levels overall.

In a completely different area, Hapoalim is planning to expand its private banking operations, aimed at high net worth individuals and provided mainly by the bank's Swiss subsidiary. Leumi, it will be recalled, has been highly successful in building up these services in its Swiss and British subsidiaries, and Hapoalim has now joined the hunt for a piece of the action.

As a reinforcement to its existing services for foreign investors interested in time deposits, bond and share markets, Hapoalim has now linked up with the giant American mutual fund group, Fidelity, which is the second biggest fund manager in the world. Hapoalim customers will be able to invest in several of Fidelity's funds, including funds that invest in long-term bonds, a mixed bonds and shares portfolio, an all-shares fund and one that specializes in non-U.S. equity investments, without being restricted by the limit on minimum amounts normally imposed by the fund manager.

A similar agreement with the British firm, G.T. Management, applies to one of the funds under that firm's management, a vehicle that specializes in international fixed-interest investments, and which was the fourth most successful British fund last year, as well as being one of the biggest.

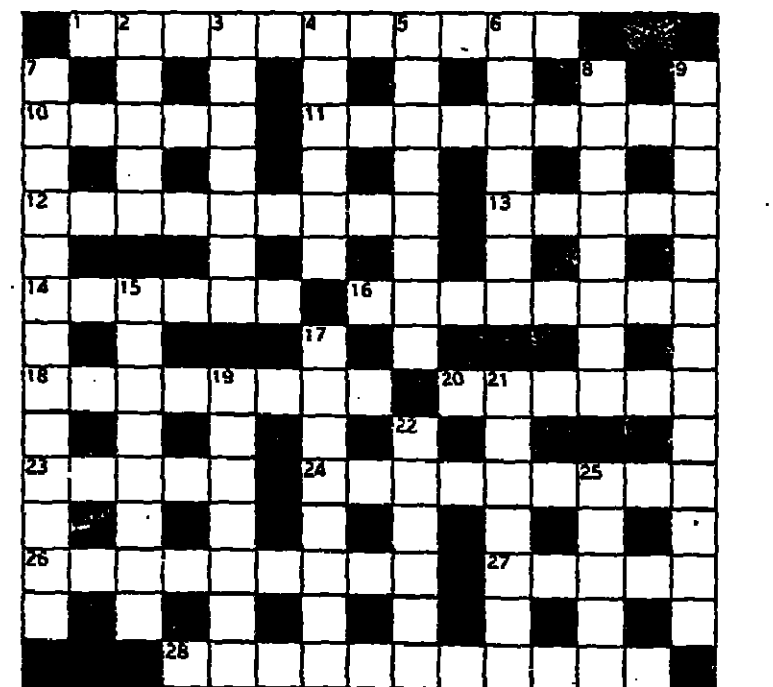
The net result of all these changes, when they are completed, will presumably be that the itinerant Israeli tourist will have a harder time getting the local Hapoalim branch to report the loss of his credit card to the manager back home. He will have to console himself that the foreign operations should be considerably more profitable, although whether that will do him personally any good is another matter.



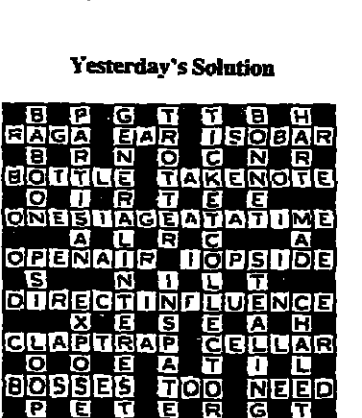
CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1 Like some beaks, red in a tipsy outbreak (11)
10 Return of foreign black-hole in this constellation? (5)
11 Real burden, this cervical impediment (9)
12 Spontaneously growing soldier? (9)
13 Makes infusion for confusion, we hear (5)
14 Did he work in endless sterile turmoil? (6)
16 Liberal worker with divers (8)
18 Work of Turner's depicting a steamship in peace, perhaps? (8)
20 Who's a pretty boy, then, in Oxbidge (8)

DOWN
23 Caesar's forty said to be superior (5)
24 Feel anker about chlorophyll (4-5)
26 Reasonable chap, the hawk (9)
27 Sound of merriment, some members of debate heeded (5)
28 Simple task to bar building unit (6-5)
2 It will shrink the cloth (5)
3 Coppers take in a name for punishment (7)
4 Either or three possibly (6)
5 Abuse of nearly all litter that is spread about (3-5)



6 Young rambler? (7)
7 Free-lance cricket-club, even so, is getting better (13)
8 What a disappointment, loss of wealth and status (6)
9 Backing group in early European song contest? (13)
15 Home counties bowman is a hunter (8)
17 Lighter takes a long time — tears for it are in vain (8)
19 Support for leg is a sort of replica (7)
21 Soldier on square face about in a sort of display (7)
22 Get stuck in gear (6)
25 And this, in Rome, a moral principle (5)



QUICK CROSSWORD
ACROSS: 1 Court, 4 Napping, 8 Reliable, 9 Nurse, 10 Virgin, 11 Lectern, 13 Ides, 15 Ljudo, 17 Ailing, 20 Naps, 22 Collier, 24 Stair, 26 Trade, 27 Tirement, 28 Elector, 29 Great, 30 Wines, 31 Caravel, 32 Usher, 33 Tabloid, 4 Needle, 5 Panic, 6 Israel, 7 Green, 12 Esau, 14 Done, 16 Ballade, 18 Isuing, 19 Garment, 21 Orator, 22 Crime, 23 Inept, 25 Able.

DOWN: 1 Of Carriage, 2 Tooth on wheel, 3 Parallelogram, 4 Over there, 5 Flower, 6 Femur, 7 Oversight, 11 Breed of dog, 12 Mass of leaves, 13 Glossy silk-stuff, 14 County of N. Ireland, 15 Talhaver, 19 Teacher, 22 Finish

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

EMERGENCY PHARMACIES
Jerusalem: Kupat Holim Clalit, Romema, 523181; Belsam, Salah Eddin, 722316; Shu'afat, Shu'afat Road, 810108; Our Adva, Herzl's Gate, 226058.
Tel Aviv: Arlosoroff, 76 Arlosoroff, 236746; Kupat Holim Clalit, 7 Amsterdam, 225142.
Ramatana-Kfar Sava: Feingold, 47 Rothschild, Kfar Sava.
Netanya: Harmsen, 13 Sderot, Weismann, 22965.
Haifa: Neve Sha'anani, 37 Hatichon, 235530.

DUTY HOSPITALS

Jerusalem: Shaare Zedek (pediatrics, surgery, orthopedics, ophthalmology), Bikur Holim (internal, obstetrics, E.N.T.).
Tel Aviv: Rokah (pediatrics), Ichilov (internal, surgery).
Netanya: Laniado

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Dial 100 in most parts of the country. In Tiberias dial 524444, Kiryat Shmona 4444.

FIRE 102

In emergencies dial 102. Otherwise, dial number of your local station as given in the front of the phone directory.

FLIGHTS

24 — Hours Flight Information Services: Call 03-5712484 (multi-line). Arrivals: Only (Typed Message) 03-361111 (20 lines)

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Magen David Adom
In emergencies dial 101 in most parts of the country. In addition:
Ashdod 51332 Jerusalem 523133
Ashkelon 23333 Kiryat Shmona 44444
Bat Yam 5611111 Kiryat Shmona 44444
Beer-Sheva 78333 Netanya 72333
Carmel 56666 Netanya 72333
Carmel Region 7811111 Petah Tikva 9221111
Eilat 72333 Rehovot 461333
Hadera 322333 Rishon LeZion 94233
Haifa 512233 Safed 80333
Hatzor 586333 Tel Aviv 5460111
Holon 803133 Tiberias 790111
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Exam — Emotional First Aid: Tel. Jerusalem 227171, Tel Aviv 5461111 (children/youth 03-261113), Haifa 62222, Beer-Sheva 418111, Netanya 35316.

Rape Crisis Centre (24 hours), for help call Tel Aviv, 234619, Jerusalem — 245554, and Haifa 60011.

The National Poison Control Centre at Ramat Hashikma, phone (04) 526205, for emergency calls, 24 hours a day, for information in case of poisoning.

Kupat Holim Information Centre Tel. 03-433300, 433500 Sunday-Thursday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

WORLD BANK PUBLICATIONS IN AGRICULTURE



Technological Innovations in Agriculture

A study paper that examines the role of market and non-market forces in affecting the rate and bias of technical change in agriculture. It also examines the process of generations of innovations and investment in agricultural research. 90 pages. NIS 9.50

Farming Systems Research

Reviews the history of farming system research and defines its scope in both a broad and a narrow sense. Also describes various on-farm research procedures, and reports on experiences accumulated in international agriculture research centres. 118 pages. NIS 9.50

Agricultural Household Models

Extensions, Applications, and Policy. By Jinderjit Singh, Lyn Squire, John Strauss. Assesses newly developed models, reporting on the results of recent and innovative empirical applications of these models in various developing countries. Provides the first comparative analysis of the policy implications for the welfare of farm households, marketed surplus, the demand for nonagricultural goods and services, the demand for hired labor, budget revenues, and foreign exchange. 348 pages. NIS 65.50

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The paper discusses the principles and objectives of service cooperatives and explores the advantages and constraints of operating and financing cooperatives in relation to other forms of commercial enterprises. 186 pages. NIS 15.20

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Carful?? — Careful!!

Israel's growing trade with India

NEW DELHI (AFP). — India's first sports contact with Israel in over a decade, the Davis Cup tennis match to be held here this week, has highlighted the quietly growing trade relations between the two countries despite their lack of diplomatic ties.

Indo-Israeli trade, though small, has increased 60-fold over the last 20 years and Israeli backers here say the decision to allow the Davis Cup tie to be played in India will lead to a further upswing in economic contacts.

Trade relations have expanded quietly through third nations although India has been one of the staunchest backers of the Palestine Liberation Organization, which maintains a diplomatic mission here.

India's exports to Israel came to a mere 30,000 rupees (\$2,400) in 1963-64. They had shot up to more than 188 m. rupees (\$15.05m.) in fiscal 1984-85, a Commerce Ministry official said.

In the first five months of the 1985-86 fiscal year, exports went up to 109m. rupees (\$8.9m.), the official said.

The biggest area of exports consists of diamonds, pearls, and precious and semi-precious stones, whose value in fiscal 1986-87 stood at 272m. rupees (\$21.76m.), followed by sporting goods, chemicals, pharmaceuticals and garments.

But the official, who asked not to be identified, did not give any data on imports.

Virtually the entire trade is in private sector hands, mostly hundreds of small companies that do business with Israel on a low-key basis so as not to attract the ire of Arab states, the official said.

The Arab Boycott of Israel Movement regularly blacklists Indian firms doing business with Israel.

Officials said Indo-Israeli trade has been looking up since 1977, when the Janata Party ousted the Congress Party in elections and struck Israel off the list of countries to which Indians could not travel.

But many Indian businessmen still reportedly keep two passports — one exclusively for Israel to prevent Arabs from discovering their Israeli connections.

Move on rental housing

The ministerial economic committee yesterday authorized the finance and justice ministers to draft a proposal encouraging rental housing projects.

The proposal would involve altering the terms of the Law for the Encouragement of Capital Investments as well as the income tax regulations. It would create favorable conditions for investors to build housing for long-term rental that would give good rates of return and hence justify the investment.

Under the terms envisaged in the detailed proposals already put together by the Housing Ministry and the Treasury, on the basis of an inter-ministerial committee's recommendations, local and foreign investors would benefit from several indirect advantages, but not from grants or cheap loans.

Thus, the proposals suggest reducing the cost of building in projects in which at least half the units are for 10-year rentals, by giving depreciation rates of 10 per cent per annum in real terms, a limited tax rate and the waiving of the levy charged for building permits, as well as exemption from property tax.

These benefits all represent waived revenue, but not extra expenses, and therefore tie in with the current philosophy of indirect support rather than direct intervention.

As strike hits most of country

Threat of court action against gas distributors

By KEN SCHACHTER
For The Jerusalem Post

TEL AVIV. — An Energy Ministry official threatened to seek a court injunction yesterday as gas agents launched a strike that disrupted distribution in much of the country.

Avi Friedman, secretary-general of the Israel Gas Agents' Association (Igaa), said yesterday's strike was 90 per cent effective throughout the country and that industrial and residential customers would start to feel the effects in two or three days as stockpiles dwindle.

But Natan Arad, director-general of the Energy Ministry, said the government would ensure that no gas users would be left without supplies. He said that if necessary the ministry would seek a court order to compel the agents to stop interfering with deliveries.

The Igaa initially said that the strike would affect only those areas outside Tel Aviv, Jerusalem and

Haifa, but yesterday agents used trucks to block one of the nation's two major filling stations, at Kiryat Ata, near Haifa.

That terminal is used not only by gas agents, but also by the four gas companies, which supply the three major cities directly. The other filling station is near Herzliya.

Igaa and Energy Ministry officials have held several meetings over the past two weeks, most recently last Thursday. However, ministry officials said they learned of the Igaa action only when questioned by reporters Sunday evening.

Clients who use gas for home heating or cooking generally have two cylinders and thus have a cushion against the effects of the strike. The four companies — Paz, Amisragas, Petrol Gas and Super Gas — own the terminals at which the cylinders are filled. Each gas agent is affiliated with one of the four gas companies.

defence documents from O'Connor's office.

He said Sheftel and Gill were unprepared to present testimony from vital witnesses, among them two Polish peasants and a Spaniard interned at Treblinka.

But Demjanjuk's son disputed O'Connor's allegations and said the family decided to dismiss O'Connor because he failed to prepare the defence case. "O'Connor's letter does not deserve a sophisticated adjective. It is garbage," he said. "Allegations like these, as well as failing to prepare the case, are exactly why Mark O'Connor was fired."

The son said defence researchers had uncovered dozens of witnesses overlooked by O'Connor, but declined to elaborate.

Demjanjuk, Jr. also said it was unfortunate that the court refused to give the new defence team additional time to prepare itself. "They held my father for nine months before the indictment was issued, and now they won't give us an extension," he said bitterly.

He said that the latest action "should have been taken weeks ago."

All morning Demjanjuk, Jr. sat beside his mother, Vera, 61, who has come from Cleveland to take the stand in her husband's defence. The couple were married at the Regensburg Displaced Persons camp in 1947, she told The Jerusalem Post.

AVNEI HEFEZ

(Continued from Page One)

Samaria Civil Administration, which must approve the settlement plans, said "nothing had moved" since Levy's declaration. A Defence Ministry spokesman said he knew of no agreements with Levy to speed up construction of the settlement. When the necessary plans are submitted and approved, work can proceed in coordination with the ministry, he said. On Sunday Levy said he had discussed the situation at Avnei Hefetz with Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

Levy's declarations came after Trade Minister Ariel Sharon made an unsuccessful attempt Sunday to send a bulldozer to the Avnei Hefetz site, east of Tulkarm. The bulldozer was turned back on orders from Rabin.

The incident sparked an exchange between Levy and Sharon, both of whom claim to be major builders of settlements in the territories. Levy criticized Sharon's attempt, and said settlement work is "not like setting up a tent. It has to be planned." Sharon retorted yesterday: "Everything we have here began from a tent. Not with words, but with deeds."

Work by the Housing Ministry on Jewish-owned land at Avnei Hefetz requires that plans be deposited with the Higher Planning and Building Committee in the Civil Administration. State lands in the area have yet to be allocated for the settlement, whose construction was approved in principle in the government's coalition agreement.

ARAFAT

(Continued from Page One)

Seasoned observers of the political scene say that the last half-year has been his disastrous for the youthful Indian premier.

Bitter defeats for his Congress party in several state elections, his mishandling of internal political wrangles, allegations of corruption, and the resurgence of intercommunal violence among Moslems, Hindus and Sikhs have put his leadership under a dark cloud.

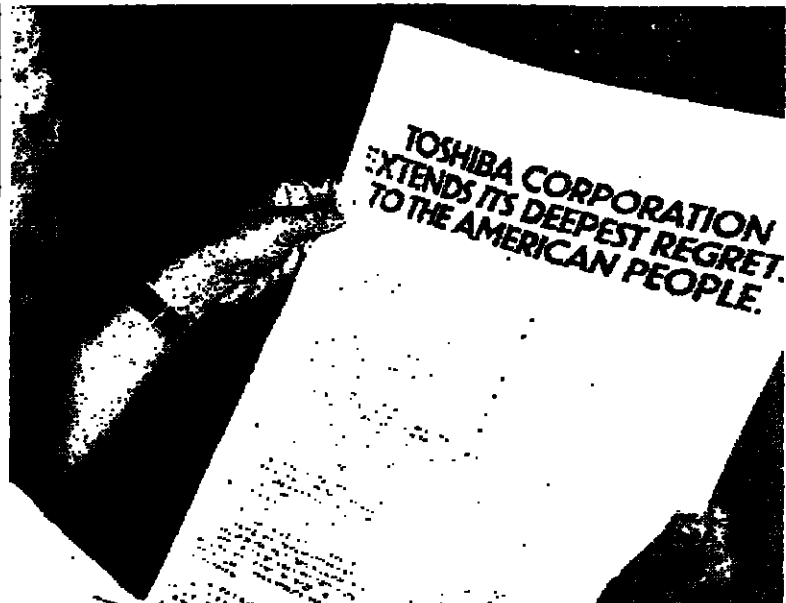
There is a cultivated attempt to "distance politics from sport" as government spokesmen have been repeating. Government officials are not expected to attend Friday morning's opening ceremony at the Delhi LTA Stadium.

In a significant departure from past practice, Gandhi will not draw the lots for the upcoming tie, Indian officials said.

But some politicians see political significance in the match with Israel. "It's a major decision and is sure to lead to further things," said Subramanyam Swamy, a leader of the Centrist Lok Dal (People's Party), and almost a lone voice urging closer ties with Israel.

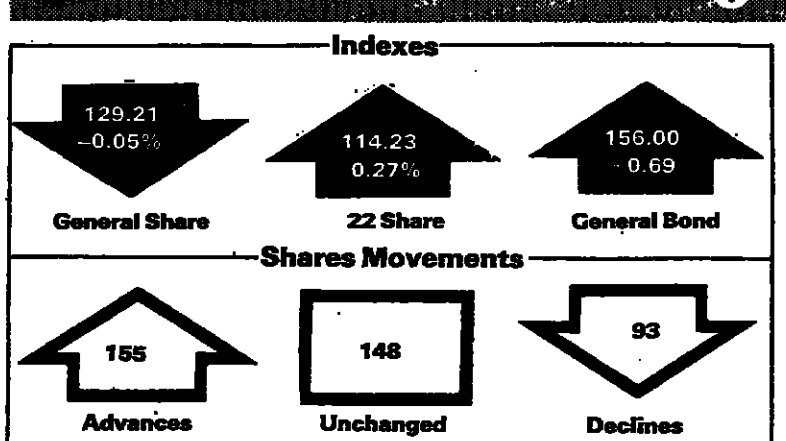
Indian officials scoff at any parallel to the China-U.S. ping-pong diplomacy of the early 1970s, and have denied the match might be a forerunner to a possible establishment of relations.

Despite the effort made to down-



A Washington man reads the full-page Toshiba Corp. advertisement which appeared in a local newspaper yesterday. In the ad, the Japanese company apologizes profoundly for a subsidiary sale to the Soviet Union of advanced milling machines, incorporating technology that could produce virtually silent submarine propellers. (Reuters)

Tel Aviv Stock Exchange



Selected Prices

Name	Price	Volume	% change
Bank Leumi	15550	110	-3.1
Bank Hapoalim	412	7508	-
Bank Leumi	620	5867	+1.1
Bank Hapoalim	18891	206	+2.7
Bank Leumi	4700	1011	-
Bank Hapoalim	3108	290	-4.6
Bank Leumi	320	3793	+1.3
Bank Hapoalim	1782	1018	+2.3
Bank Leumi	4710	3748	-
Bank Hapoalim	8880	272	+0.8
Bank Leumi	348	2152	+3.0
Bank Hapoalim	1520	310	-
Bank Leumi	1460	3252	-2.3
Bank Hapoalim	3114	1342	-
Bank Leumi	1730	724	-0.5
Bank Hapoalim	25500	122	-
Bank Leumi	2530	209	-0.2
Bank Hapoalim	1554	788	-
Bank Leumi	1520	310	+0.7
Bank Hapoalim	216	15148	-
Bank Leumi	170	4581	-
Bank Hapoalim	1730	724	-0.5
Bank Leumi	2573	430	+5.0
Bank Hapoalim	909	381	-
Bank Leumi	3850	488	-8.1
Bank Hapoalim	552	7174	+0.2
Bank Leumi	41550	122	-1.9
Bank Hapoalim	225	14522	-
Bank Leumi	13140	1473	-
Bank Hapoalim	15770	537	-

Commercial Banks

Name	Price	Volume	% change
Bank Leumi	101410	407	-0.3
Bank Hapoalim	71334	280	-0.5
Bank Leumi	42056	18	-
Bank Hapoalim	41540	1121	-0.5
Bank Leumi	88910	132	-0.5
Bank Hapoalim	173756	134	-
Bank Leumi	43750	1389	-0.5
Bank Hapoalim	58837	1	-0.2

Commercial Banks

Name	Price	Volume	% change
Bank Leumi	101410	407	-0.3
Bank Hapoalim	71334	280	-0.5
Bank Leumi	42056	18	-
Bank Hapoalim	41540	1121	-0.5
Bank Leumi	88910	132	-0.5
Bank Hapoalim	173756	134	-
Bank Leumi	43750	1389	-0.5
Bank Hapoalim	58837	1	-0.2

Mortgage Banks & Finance

Name	Price	Volume	% change
Bank Leumi	9850	-	-
Bank Hapoalim	2689	1288	-0.0
Bank Leumi	42056	18	-
Bank Hapoalim	23898	189	-
Bank Leumi	9800	430	+3.2
Bank Hapoalim	12897	213	+0.2
Bank Leumi	22030	8	+3.5

Insurance

Name	Price	Volume	% change
Bank Leumi	1220	410	+1.7
Bank Hapoalim	785	359	-
Bank Leumi	5820	18	-
Bank Hapoalim	23898	189	-
Bank Leumi	9800	430	+3.2
Bank Hapoalim	12897	213	+0.2
Bank Leumi	22030	8	+3.5

Trade & Services

Name	Price	Volume	% change
Bank Leumi	8039	-	+1.3
Bank Hapoalim	988	518	-
Bank Leumi	818	5488	+1.7
Bank Hapoalim	730	711	-
Bank Leumi	1245	1542	+2.5
Bank Hapoalim	1700	302	+1.2
Bank Leumi	7384	107	+0.7
Bank Hapoalim	2524	100	-
Bank Leumi	4880	48	+8.0
Bank Hapoalim	13700	48	-2.8
Bank Leumi	738	1228	-2.8

Real Estate, Building and Agriculture

Name	Price	Volume	% change
Bank Leumi	880	12000	-
Bank Hapoalim	51070	268	+2.0
Bank Leumi	42800	451	-
Bank Hapoalim	2940	233	-3.4
Bank Leumi	7110	238	+1.8
Bank Hapoalim	317	18230	-
Bank Leumi	4840	1867	-
Bank Hapoalim	18920	175	-
Bank Leumi	318	17828	+1.0
Bank Hapoalim	6700	1285	-
Bank Leumi	1833	1065	-

Industrials

Name	Price	Volume	% change
Bank Leumi	6110	310	+0.7
Bank Hapoalim	38880	90	-0.0

Abbreviations:

— selfers only b.b. buyers only

— registered

Statistics

Stock Indices

General Share	22 Share	General Bond
129.21	114.23	156.00
-0.05%	0.27%	-0.69%

Bond Indices

General Share	22 Share	General Bond
129.21	114.23	156.00
-0.05%	0.27%	-0.69%

Turnovers

General Share	22 Share	General Bond
129.21	114.23	156.00
-0.05%	0.27%	-0.69%

Share Movements

General Share	22 Share	General Bond
129.21	114.23	156.00
-0.05%	0.27%	-0.69%

Bond Market Trends

General Share	22 Share	General Bond
129.21	114.23	156.00
-0.05%	0.27%	-0.69%

Arrangement Yields

General Share	22 Share	General Bond
129.21	114.23	156.00
-0.05%	0.27%	-0.69%

22 Shares

Name	Price	Volume	% change
Bank Leumi	7788	2280	+2.25
Bank Hapoalim	308	28000	+1.75
Bank Leumi	420	25800	+2.25
Bank Hapoalim	13747	200	+2.00
Bank Leumi	10275	1810	+2.25
Bank Hapoalim	2623	7000	+2.25
Bank Leumi	1188	17050	+2.25
Bank Hapoalim	3887	4400	+3.00
Bank Leumi	80188	230	+5.0
Bank Hapoalim	705	6800	+2.25
Bank Leumi	18617	180	+2.50
Bank Hapoalim	1154	5250	+2.25
Bank Leumi	472447	18	-
Bank Hapoalim	401573	4	+2.00
Bank Leumi	18368	1800	+1.50
Bank Hapoalim	2306	2180	+1.50
Bank Leumi	731	18000	+2.25
Bank Hapoalim	430421	120	+2.1
Bank Leumi	12288	120	+2.00
Bank Hapoalim	558	105000	+1.75
Bank Leumi	10588	1600	+2.00
Bank Hapoalim	2848	1580	+2.25
Bank Leumi	1367	32400	+1.82
Bank Hapoalim	3678	1800	+2.75

Afternoon

Name	Price	Volume	% change
Bank Leumi	7788	407	+2.1
Bank Hapoalim	302	8604	-0.3
Bank Leumi	429	12159	+2.1
Bank Hapoalim	10275	1810	+2.25
Bank Leumi	2623	7000	+2.25
Bank Hapoalim	1188	17050	+2.25
Bank Leumi	3887	4400	+3.00
Bank Hapoalim	80188	230	+5.0
Bank Leumi	705	6800	+2.25
Bank Hapoalim	18617	180	+2.50
Bank Leumi	1154	5250	+2.25
Bank Hapoalim	472447	18	-
Bank Leumi	401573	4	+2.00
Bank Hapoalim	18368	1800	+1.50
Bank Leumi	2306	2180	+1.50
Bank Hapoalim	731	18000	+2.25
Bank Leumi	430421	120	+2.1
Bank Hapoalim	12288	120	+2.00
Bank Leumi	558	105000	+1.75
Bank Hapoalim	10588	1600	+2.00
Bank Leumi	2848	1580	+2.25
Bank Hapoalim	1367	32400	+1.82
Bank Leumi	3678	1800	+2.75

NYSE

	302	8804	-0.3
+2.25	429	12159	+2.1
+2.00		no trading	
+2.75		no trading	
+2.25	2750	1810	-0.4
+2.25	1168	4379	+2.3

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Tehiya's price

IT IS MOOT which party gained more from the Likud-Tehiya deal for a Likud-sponsored intensification of Jewish settlement in the territories, in return for Tehiya's withdrawal of its support for an early election. What is certain is that, if the deal has substance and is acted upon, the loser will be the People of Israel.

Had Tehiya's threat to team up with the Alignment and its allies on the left on an early election been real, a Knesset majority for the immediate dissolution of parliament could probably have been secured. Such a prospect was, and still is, highly displeasing to the Likud. Premier Yitzhak Shamir seems genuinely fearful that, if a national poll over the issue of the international peace conference were held within the next few months, the Alignment and its allies might emerge from it victoriously, however narrowly.

In any case, Mr. Shamir would rather keep up a cabinet stalemate that allows him, without a fresh popular mandate, continued pursuit of his Greater Israel policies. Besides, he doubtless sees no reason to needlessly rock the boat and arouse more challenges from within his own party.

Until a short while ago it was widely believed that the oppositionist Tehiya stood to benefit from an early election, as its support was rising in the public opinion polls. More recently, however, Tehiya's constituency appeared to be shrinking, partly as a reaction to the leadership's willingness to go with the Alignment against the Likud. If Tehiya were able to trade an idea whose time had passed for some proof that, though in opposition, it was a powerful force in boosting settlement in Judea, Samaria and Gaza, it would ultimately show in the election returns.

All the more so, if, as Tehiya hoped, and continues to hope, a fresh spurt of settlement were to deliver a death blow to Shimon Peres's proposal for an international peace conference, by demonstrating that the process of annexation was, and remains, irreversible.

After the fact, it is clear that the Likud could obtain Tehiya's cooperation in the matter of the early election for less. But since the Likud, too, is wedded to the notion that the more Jews are settled in the territories the less chance there is for any territorial compromise, it has little reason for complaint that it was overcharged.

The real question is whether the country, as distinct from its right-wing nationalist parties, can afford the price fixed for this new enterprise by Mr. Shamir and MK Yuval Ne'eman.

Opinions on the matter vary rather widely, as do estimates of necessary, and promised, expenditure handed out by the Likud and Tehiya respectively. Neither party can be believed, if only because a number of secret clauses were attached to the agreement that was made more-or-less public. Out in the open, talk goes of starting construction on the two of the six new settlements agreed upon between the Likud and the Alignment which are still on paper; the "thickening" of existing settlements through construction starts on 3,300 new housing units within the next 18 months, and on road construction.

Sources "close to the premier" have floated a figure of NIS 30 million for "thickening" alone. Tehiya sources, a trifle more credibly, have been quoting a figure which is much larger. With hundreds of housing units in the territories standing empty for want of takers today, and with 4,000 more already "in the works" in the West Bank, can any national leader in his right mind plan for even more Potemkin villages, especially when the elections are at best - or at worst - only a year and a half away?

When the Likud-Tehiya deal is placed in the context of a restrictive economic policy which can hardly find the cash to succour schools, universities, productive enterprises and agricultural settlements throughout the country that cry out for help so they may not die, the Likud-Tehiya deal shapes up as either a sordid exercise in self-deception, or as a massive conspiracy against the country.

If there is indeed such a conspiracy, it is up to the Alignment to foil it.

The British elections, one month later Good or bad for the Jews?

Eric Moonman

ON JUNE 11, Mrs. Thatcher won her third election in a row. The implications for the British public and for British Jewry in particular are likely to be significant, beyond the life of this present Parliament.

Margaret Thatcher's devastating success has left the opposition parties adrift. Defiant speeches have been made by Labour leaders in the aftermath of their well-packaged but doomed campaign while the Alliance has turned in on itself in a dispute which is more likely to end in a break than a merger.

Angry behaviour in the House of Commons merely confirms the frustration opposition MPs now feel. But they had better get used to it. A change of government is unlikely for 7-8 years. Labour achieved a mere 1.8 swing in its favour on June 11; it now needs an 8 per cent movement to achieve success at the polls. Going by these figures, two further elections will be needed to remove the present government. Put another way, the Conservatives will be running the country until 1994 at least.

How has the election affected the Jewish community? The fact that there has been a drop in the number of Jewish MPs - five down from the number in the last Parliament, has caused much speculation and a little concern in the Jewish community. It's true that there has been a steady reduction in Jewish MPs since 1966-70, during my first term as an MP, when the figure was 46; but more important than the number of MPs is their particular attitude and commitment towards Jewish and Israeli affairs. There are those members who were born Jewish but take great pains to point out either that they have no affiliation to the community or were converted to Christianity. Even more significant, to my mind, than the reduction of the number of Jewish MPs, is the change in the political allegiances of the group that has been elected. They reflect the general trend of the community to move from left to right.

The numbers game does not help us to understand the subtleties of British politics. It is more important to assess the statements of the party leaders and their position papers on Jewish issues. In the manifestos there was virtually no mention of the Middle East conflict, let alone of Israel. The Tories reported quite correctly, "we have played a prominent part in bringing Israel and the moderate Arab states close to peace negotiations in the framework of an

international conference." Labour took the line of being an "honest broker" between Israel and the Palestinians, pledging to support and protect the rights of both.

Israelis in Britain have expressed surprise that foreign affairs should play such a minor role in an election. The contrast with an election campaign in Israel where regional and international politics play such an important part, must be startling. Instead, in Britain we have a series of arguments expressing deep concern with the quality of domestic services. A leading Labour spokesman told me, "the fact that foreign affairs did not surface was not because we planned it that way, but because of the domestic issues (health, education and taxes)." In fact, in retrospect, he might have added that the one period in which Labour was really uncomfortable during the June campaign was when the debate focused on defence.

Two features of the British political system much admired in Israel are the constituency MP concept and the "first past the post" principle. Yet the anomalies of our system are there for all to see. The Conservatives held their 43 per cent share of the vote and lost 17 seats overall. Labour put up its share from 28 per cent to 32 per cent and gained 21 seats overall, but has 40 seats fewer than it did in 1979. The Alliance dropped from 26 per cent of the vote to 23 per cent and finished with 22 seats, one fewer than in 1983.

Yet the Alliance of the Social Democratic Party and the Liberal Party continues to show little for having seven million supporters, except a deep sense of grievance. But the chance of either Conservatives or Labour making any commitment to proportional representation is remote - why should they help to create a third party challenge? I attended a number of political meetings during the election where PR was seriously discussed. At an Alliance meeting in Bury South (Manchester) for instance, a young man wanted to know how we would cope with the emergence in Parliament of the right- and left-wing extremists which PR would inevitably bring. "As a Jew," he said, "I am not prepared to trust the so-called good sense of the people not to elect a

member of the National Front." There are, of course, ways of overcoming these hazards and the reply he got confirmed that a PR model based on the German system would ensure that parties not reaching 5 per cent of the electorate would not qualify for representation.

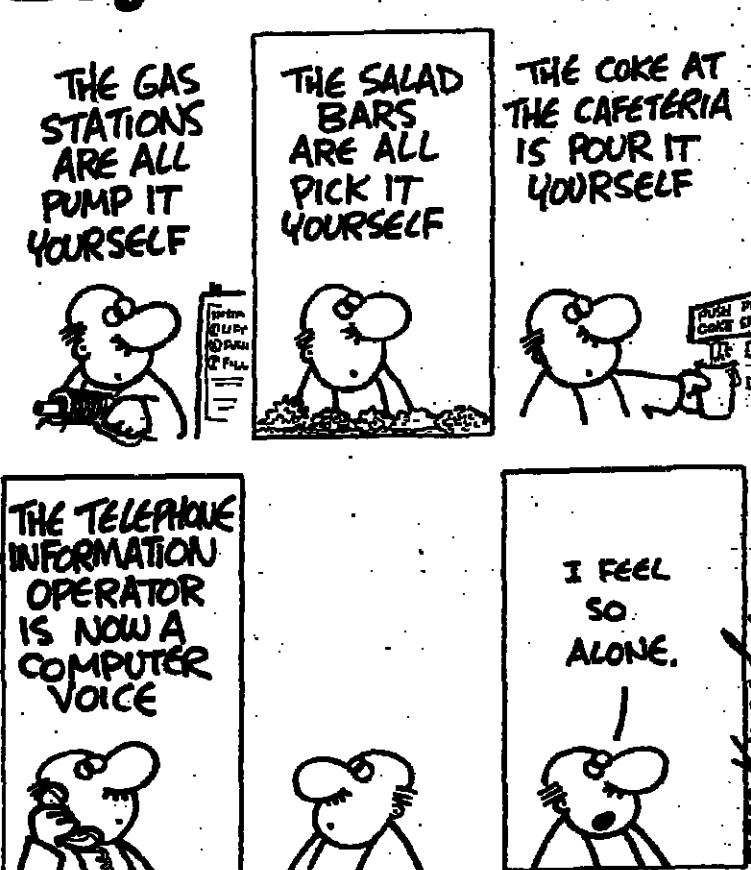
The General Election sub-committee of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, which I chaired, and which included representatives of AJEX, the Zionist Federation and Bicap, submitted a questionnaire to more than 2,000 Parliamentary candidates. The replies are still being analysed, but it is already clear that they provide an important profile of our friends in Parliament and of those who are not so friendly. More than 550 replies were received to questions on Israel, the defence of the Jewish community and *shehita*. In addition to the questionnaire, delegations of Jewish constituents met with many candidates throughout the country seeking their views on the same issues.

It is already apparent that a major task is required in informing and educating our new legislators. Mrs. Thatcher's government shows little change in the departments likely to affect Israel. Geoffrey Howe remains as foreign secretary and is joined by Lynda Chalker, a very keen advocate for Soviet Jewry, who takes the No. 2 job. On the opposition side, Denis Healey has quit foreign affairs which can only mean an improvement. Dealing with the issue of *shehita*, Mr. Jopling has been replaced by Mr. Gummer. That, too, has to be better news. There is also David Mellor, a minister of state responsible for the Middle East, who will clearly be more open-minded than his predecessor, Timothy Renton. Mr. Mellor's speech to the International Council on Soviet Jewry in London two weeks ago confirms the fine talent of this minister.

It may be a little unwise to speculate on exactly what government attitudes will be towards Israel and Jewish questions for the next four to five years of this Parliament. But the following observations are likely to be not too far off the mark.

There will be no shift in government policy away from Israel. Margaret Thatcher runs her own foreign policy whoever carries the portfolio. Her stamp throughout the past eight years on the Middle East has been consistent, constructive and understanding of Israel's position in a way

Dry Bones' LETTER FROM AMERICA



no British prime minister has acted, with the exception of Harold Wilson. Her discussions recently with Israel's Foreign Minister Shimon Peres confirm her continued positive stance.

The Venice Declaration for an EEC initiative on the Middle East is dead. But I suspect efforts will be made to revive the corpse in one or other of the EEC countries. The EEC foreign policy, however, does not figure too highly on the prime minister's agenda, so Lord Carrington's brain-child is unlikely to get a hearing. Anyway, there is no demand within Britain to upgrade EEC affairs.

Shehita is one area which troubles the Jewish communal leadership. It is not a narrow issue of who eats what, but in recent years two separate groups of people, Animal Rights and the extreme Left, have campaigned against those who want to protect the right to ritual slaughter. As Sir David Price, MP, said in his introduction to a recent Centre for Contemporary Studies briefing paper, "First, there are the new style militant campaigners for 'animal rights' who believe that the end justifies the means and are therefore all too ready to act beyond the law. Secondly, there are the militant racists who are equally ready to use any means to achieve their en-

ds." These two elements add a new and disturbing dimension to the old debate on *shehita* which could take it outside the traditional pattern and rules of British politics. There are occasions when these two groups overlap in their aggressive stance on Jewish matters.

I believe Mrs. Thatcher will hold firm on the *shehita* issue because it would affect not only the Jewish community, but the one million Moslems who have a fast-growing voting potential.

The Conservatives look set for a comfortable period of office, though their radical first-year programme may run into rough times. The balance and style of power is changing in Britain. We have moved away from the welfare, supportive state into a popular capitalism. Many houses are owned, more shares are owned (one in five has stock), and there is more emphasis on privatization, for instance in education and the health service. Mrs. Thatcher is directing the ship with greater verve and it looks, for the moment, as though there is no land in sight for the Labour, Liberal and SDP alternatives.

The writer, who served as a Member of Parliament for 10 years, is senior vice president of the Board of Deputies of British Jews.

READERS' LETTERS

VOTING WITH THEIR FEET

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, - As one of the "mad dogs ... out in the moonday sun," i.e., an oleb, ("Yordim state their case" - Letters, June 19) permit me to comment on the remarks made by Messrs Pines, yordim who now reside in California. They have every right to leave Israel and look to make their future in America. No less than the right I had to make aliya, which I think of as a trade-off - I reduced my physical standard of living by coming to Israel in return for which I enhanced my Jewish standard of living.

Like Messrs. Pines, my roots, family, friends, etc. are in my native country. Like them, I decided to leave my native country and throw in my lot with the citizens of another country. Unlike them, I feel that having made the move, I must concentrate on improving the welfare of my new homeland, and not give advice to the citizens of my native country.

The yordim who wrote the letter list three problems facing Israel at this time - all of us here could easily list 300. The choice is not between living in Israel or in a perfect society. The choice lies in living either in an imperfect Jewish state, or a (perhaps) less imperfect non-Jewish state. Those who chose the former have the opportunity and challenge, and yes, the privilege, of trying to make Israel a less imperfect society. As for those who opt out, may they be healthy and take whatever satisfaction they can from their description of themselves as "envied as enlightened ones." But while they have the right to leave Israel, in so doing they have forfeited the privilege of preaching to those who remained on how to conduct the affairs of this country.

HARRIS D. GULKO
Jerusalem.

Sir, - The letter of Leon and Daniel Pines is a show of disgusting arrogance. There may be many reasons for someone to leave Israel: economics, family, the desire to escape military service and all the other reasons given in the letter. How those of us who stay here view such yordim is irrelevant. They have as much right to make their choice of residence as any citizen of a free country. But they don't have the right to set the conditions for their return to the country they abandoned. If these are their conditions for residence in Israel, they have a duty to stay, work and fight for the emergence of the society they would

like to live in. Having abandoned it they have a duty to shut up and enjoy their new found paradise.
SAMUEL LUBIN
Tel Aviv.

Sir, - Please inform Leon and Daniel Pines that they should stay where they are - in California. We are better off without them.
RUTH RADBERG
Jerusalem.

Sir, - I heartily agree with the Pines brothers - there are many basic improvements to be made in Israeli political and social life. The large group of olim which arrived here from the West in the 70s have been working diligently to change things. We feel that we have been successful to a large extent.

If the Pines brothers want the right to vote in our elections, they should pay taxes here and serve their 30 days of annual reserve duty with us. Things should come back and help us change things. Otherwise, their criticism will be just words in the wilderness blown away by the wind.
STANLEY LEVIN
Petah Tikva.

Sir, - The Pines brothers suggest that they should be allowed to vote in Israel elections, from the comfort of their California "exile," even though they are yordim. It seems to me that they have already voted, with their feet! And it was a vote of "no confidence" both in the present condition of the state and in its future.

For some of us, despite the aggravations and the politics, living in Israel still has idealistic dimensions. To be here during this moment in history and to be part of and contribute to Jewish history in the making - an opportunity dreamed of and denied to preceding generations - is both a privilege and a challenge.
YONINA ROSENTHAL
Haifa.

Sir, - Leon Pines and Daniel Pines write that Israel is "where we long to be and where we ought to live." Yet they live in California.

This, in a nutshell, is why Israelis from all walks of life are volunteering their talents and energies to the Israel Association for Stopping Yordim. Our aim is to eliminate factors that cause Israelis to leave the country they love and need.

Let those who share our goals join us in Israel in this crucial task. The struggle to solve Israel's problems cannot be waged from California.
AVRAHAM KATZ-0Z, MK
Chairman,
Israel Association
for Stopping Yordim
P.O. B. 22059
Tel Aviv.

CAUSELESS HATRED

It was this causeless hatred that caused the destruction of the Temple, we are told. With Tisha Be'Av coming up very soon, I suggest that this is a good time to cool off and get one's perspectives straight. Causeless hatred is a moral disease. We can and must cure it if we are to continue living in this country as one people.

ARYE CARMELL
Jerusalem.

POSTSCRIPTS

P.S. THE JAPANESE are refining technology that they hope will make them a little less tongue-tied in dealing with foreign countries.

Faster, more accurate and efficient computer translation systems may help bridge the formidable language barrier that impedes Japan's communication with the rest of the world.

Building on breakthroughs in artificial intelligence, Japanese firms developed and marketed the first generation of Japanese-to-English translation machines about two years ago.

The machines started with a bit of tin ear. A researcher fed the English sentence "I am feeling fine" into the machine a few years ago and got back in Japanese: "I am very sensitive to blue skies."

But researchers say the latest translation machines are feeling much better.

P.S. REPORTED cases of sexual abuse of children went up 137 per cent in Britain in 1986, the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children said in London recently.

However, the society said the figures should be seen in the context of recent heightened awareness of the problem, with social workers and others being more willing to act on it.

The NSPCC's statistics were released as a storm was raging over incidents in Cleveland, northeast England, where a total of 302 children were taken from their homes in just eight weeks and put into local authority care after allegations that parents had sexually abused them.

In the whole of last year 76 such cases were revealed, and many of the accused parents vehemently deny the allegations. Backed by local Members of Parliament, they claim that a new pediatrician, Dr. Marietta Higgins, has abused her authority and misdiagnosed symptoms.

The parents have begun legal action to get their children back.

P.S. ASTRONAUTS who have had their fill of food paste in space may soon be able to sink their teeth into lobster à l'orange and other delicacies thanks to French culinary wizardry.

Two chefs from Toulouse have specially created seven dishes for the astronauts who are to spend 30 days in orbit aboard the Soviet Mir space station in a Franco-Soviet mission next year.

The recipes were submitted to Soviet space experts, who said they wanted to see how well the dishes held up under extreme heat and cold. More than 2,000 tinned samples were sent to the Soviet Union for tests.

For the first time, dishes containing alcohol will be on the official menu, although experts say that some astronauts have been known to sneak small amounts of their favourite wine or liquor on board.

On offer will be rabbit stew cooked with prunes and vodka, as well as lobster à l'orange cooked in Sauterne.

Other recipes include cabbage leaves stuffed with crab and apples, pigeon with dates, raisins and spices, oxtail fondue with tomatoes and pickles, vegetable puree with ham and duck, and sliced roast duck with artichoke.

P.S. RECENT nationwide inspections in China showed that many goods, particularly foodstuffs, are below government standards in quality, the official China Daily reported recently.

An investigation in the northeastern province of Heilongjiang found that 90 per cent of the fresh milk on sale there was adulterated so it would bring in more money, the newspaper said.

The story did not say how the milk was adulterated. But there have been reports in the past of water, sugar, flour, or even white paint being used to dilute milk so there is more to sell.

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DIGS
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Abdel Mounem
PLO mu
approve
peace
delegate
The writer, who served as a Member of Parliament for 10 years, is senior vice president of the Board of Deputies of British Jews.
Soviet officials
turn to Moscow
in a few days
BUSHVINA AKA
for the Jerusalem Post